

# CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS INC

## FORM 10-Q (Quarterly Report)

Filed 08/03/17 for the Period Ending 06/30/17

Address	25 GREENS HILL ROAD RUTLAND, VT 05701
Telephone	8027750325
CIK	0000911177
Symbol	CWST
SIC Code	4953 - Refuse Systems
Industry	Environmental Services & Equipment
Sector	Industrials
Fiscal Year	12/31

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 10-Q**

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(Mark One)

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2017  
OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Commission file number 000-23211

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**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

03-0338873  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

25 Greens Hill Lane, Rutland, Vermont  
(Address of principal executive offices)

05701  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (802) 775-0325

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes   
No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes   
No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of July 31, 2017 :

Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value per share:	41,047,965
Class B common stock, \$0.01 par value per share:	988,200

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**PART I.**

**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
(in thousands)**

	<b>June 30, 2017</b>	<b>December 31, 2016</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>(Unaudited)</b>	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,685	\$ 2,544
Accounts receivable - trade, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$601 and \$1,069, respectively	65,766	61,196
Refundable income taxes	718	654
Prepaid expenses	7,208	7,989
Inventory	5,309	4,915
Other current assets	967	1,290
Total current assets	82,653	78,588
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$783,128 and \$837,122, respectively	349,345	398,466
Goodwill	121,700	119,899
Intangible assets, net	8,169	7,696
Restricted assets	1,065	1,002
Cost method investments	12,333	12,333
Other non-current assets	13,612	13,528
Total assets	\$ 588,877	\$ 631,512

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Continued)**  
(in thousands, except for share and per share data)

	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
	(Unaudited)	
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Current maturities of long-term debt and capital leases	\$ 5,016	\$ 4,686
Accounts payable	43,539	44,997
Accrued payroll and related expenses	5,910	12,505
Accrued interest	2,039	4,654
Current accrued capping, closure and post-closure costs	943	668
Other accrued liabilities	20,597	14,916
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>78,044</b>	<b>82,426</b>
Long-term debt and capital leases, less current portion	497,592	503,961
Accrued capping, closure and post-closure costs, less current portion	55,804	43,539
Deferred income taxes	6,462	6,178
Other long-term liabilities	25,608	19,958
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b>		
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT:</b>		
Casella Waste Systems, Inc. stockholders' deficit		
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value per share; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 41,042,000 and 40,572,000 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	410	406
Class B common stock, \$0.01 par value per share; 1,000,000 shares authorized; 988,000 shares issued and outstanding; 10 votes per share	10	10
Additional paid-in capital	352,441	348,434
Accumulated deficit	(427,208)	(373,308)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(286)	(68)
<b>Total Casella Waste Systems, Inc. stockholders' deficit</b>	<b>(74,633)</b>	<b>(24,526)</b>
Noncontrolling interests	—	(24)
<b>Total stockholders' deficit</b>	<b>(74,633)</b>	<b>(24,550)</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit</b>	<b>\$ 588,877</b>	<b>\$ 631,512</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(Unaudited)  
(in thousands, except for per share data)

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Revenues	\$ 154,016	\$ 144,670	\$ 287,818	\$ 270,103
Operating expenses:				
Cost of operations	102,519	95,188	197,063	185,606
General and administration	18,794	18,084	37,638	36,672
Depreciation and amortization	15,868	15,802	29,717	30,255
Southbridge landfill closure charge	64,114	—	64,114	—
	<u>201,295</u>	<u>129,074</u>	<u>328,532</u>	<u>252,533</u>
Operating (loss) income	(47,279)	15,596	(40,714)	17,570
Other expense (income):				
Interest income	(52)	(60)	(121)	(164)
Interest expense	6,334	10,004	12,784	20,034
Loss on debt extinguishment	46	593	517	545
Other income	(326)	(363)	(405)	(504)
Other expense, net	6,002	10,174	12,775	19,911
(Loss) income before income taxes	(53,281)	5,422	(53,489)	(2,341)
Provision for income taxes	394	230	411	81
Net (loss) income	(53,675)	5,192	(53,900)	(2,422)
Less: Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	(3)	—	(9)
Net (loss) income attributable to common stockholders	<u>\$ (53,675)</u>	<u>\$ 5,195</u>	<u>\$ (53,900)</u>	<u>\$ (2,413)</u>
Basic earnings per share attributable to common stockholders:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	41,811	41,132	41,698	41,064
Basic earnings per common share	<u>\$ (1.28)</u>	<u>\$ 0.13</u>	<u>\$ (1.29)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>
Diluted earnings per share attributable to common stockholders:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding	41,811	41,598	41,698	41,064
Diluted earnings per common share	<u>\$ (1.28)</u>	<u>\$ 0.12</u>	<u>\$ (1.29)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF**  
**COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME**  
**(Unaudited)**  
**(in thousands)**

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net (loss) income	\$ (53,675)	\$ 5,192	\$ (53,900)	\$ (2,422)
Other comprehensive income (loss), before tax:				
Hedging activity:				
Interest rate swap settlements	(149)	—	(194)	—
Interest rate swap amounts reclassified into interest expense	138	—	208	—
Unrealized loss resulting from changes in fair value of derivative instruments	(212)	—	(278)	—
Unrealized gain (loss) resulting from changes in fair value of marketable securities	23	44	46	(39)
Other comprehensive (loss) income, before tax	(200)	44	(218)	(39)
Income tax expense related to items of other comprehensive loss	—	—	—	—
Other comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax	(200)	44	(218)	(39)
Comprehensive (loss) income	(53,875)	5,236	(54,118)	(2,461)
Less: Comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	(3)	—	(9)
Comprehensive (loss) income attributable to common stockholders	\$ (53,875)	\$ 5,239	\$ (54,118)	\$ (2,452)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF**  
**STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT**  
**(Unaudited)**  
**(in thousands)**

Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Stockholders' Deficit									
	Total	Class A Common Stock		Class B Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Noncontrolling Interests
		Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Balance, December 31, 2016	\$ (24,550)	40,572	\$ 406	988	\$ 10	\$ 348,434	\$ (373,308)	\$ (68)	\$ (24)
Net loss	(53,900)	—	—	—	—	—	(53,900)	—	—
Other comprehensive loss	(218)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(218)	—
Issuances of Class A common stock	1,099	470	4	—	—	1,095	—	—	—
Stock-based compensation	2,912	—	—	—	—	2,912	—	—	—
Other	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Balance, June 30, 2017	<u>\$ (74,633)</u>	<u>41,042</u>	<u>\$ 410</u>	<u>988</u>	<u>\$ 10</u>	<u>\$ 352,441</u>	<u>\$ (427,208)</u>	<u>\$ (286)</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(Unaudited)  
(in thousands)

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</b>		
Net loss	\$ (53,900)	\$ (2,422)
<b>Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>		
Depreciation and amortization	29,717	30,255
Depletion of landfill operating lease obligations	4,173	4,443
Interest accretion on landfill and environmental remediation liabilities	1,939	1,782
Amortization of debt issuance costs and discount on long-term debt	1,320	2,079
Stock-based compensation	2,912	1,622
Gain on sale of property and equipment	(97)	(520)
Southbridge landfill non-cash closure charge	63,526	—
Loss on debt extinguishment	517	545
Deferred income taxes	284	303
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and divestitures:</b>		
Accounts receivable	(4,570)	(916)
Accounts payable	(1,458)	1,116
Prepaid expenses, inventories and other assets	517	(782)
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	(4,871)	(1,920)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>40,009</u>	<u>35,585</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>		
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(2,694)	(2,439)
Acquisition related additions to property, plant and equipment	(176)	(38)
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(24,372)	(23,460)
Payments on landfill operating lease contracts	(3,177)	(3,326)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	382	957
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(30,037)</u>	<u>(28,306)</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities:</b>		
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	117,000	126,000
Principal payments on long-term debt	(126,238)	(132,716)
Payments of debt issuance costs	(1,451)	(682)
Payments of debt extinguishment costs	—	(310)
Proceeds from the exercise of share based awards	858	—
Change in restricted cash	—	499
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(9,831)</u>	<u>(7,209)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	141	70
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	2,544	2,312
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 2,685</u>	<u>\$ 2,382</u>
<b>Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:</b>		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest	\$ 14,079	\$ 18,394
Income taxes, net of refunds	\$ 189	\$ 203
<b>Supplemental Disclosure of Non-Cash Investing and Financing Activities:</b>		
Non-current assets obtained through long-term obligations	\$ 2,813	\$ 866

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Unaudited)  
(in thousands, except for per share data)

**1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (“Parent”), and its consolidated subsidiaries (collectively, “we”, “us” or “our”), is a regional, vertically integrated solid waste services company that provides collection, transfer, disposal, landfill, landfill gas-to-energy, recycling and organics services in the northeastern United States. We market recyclable metals, aluminum, plastics, paper and corrugated cardboard, which have been processed at our recycling facilities, as well as recyclables purchased from third-parties. We manage our solid waste operations on a geographic basis through two regional operating segments, the Eastern and Western regions, each of which provides a full range of solid waste services, and our larger-scale recycling and commodity brokerage operations through our Recycling segment. Organics services, ancillary operations, major account and industrial services, discontinued operations and earnings from equity method investees, as applicable, are included in our Other segment.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements, which include the accounts of the Parent, our wholly-owned subsidiaries and any partially owned entities over which we have a controlling financial interest, have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”) pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation. Investments in entities in which we do not have a controlling financial interest are accounted for under either the equity method or the cost method of accounting, as appropriate. Our significant accounting policies are more fully discussed in Item 8 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 , which was filed with the SEC on March 2, 2017.

Preparation of our consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the accounting for and recognition and disclosure of assets, liabilities, equity, revenues and expenses. We must make these estimates and assumptions because certain information that we use is dependent on future events, cannot be calculated with a high degree of precision given the available data, or simply cannot be readily calculated. In the opinion of management, these consolidated financial statements include all adjustments, which include normal recurring and nonrecurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented. The results for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 may not be indicative of the results for any other interim period or the entire fiscal year. The consolidated financial statements presented herein should be read in conjunction with our audited consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 .

**Subsequent Events**

We have evaluated subsequent events or transactions that have occurred after the consolidated balance sheet date of June 30, 2017 through the date of filing of the consolidated financial statements with the SEC on this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. We have determined that there are no subsequent events that require disclosure in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

**2. ACCOUNTING CHANGES**

A table providing a brief description of recent Accounting Standards Updates (“ASU”) to the Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) that may have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements upon adoption follows:

Standard	Description	Effect on the Financial Statements or Other Significant Matters
<b>Accounting standards that are pending adoption</b>		
ASU 2017-09: Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718)	Requires that an entity should account for the effects of a modification to an award unless all of the following conditions are met: the fair value of the modified award is the same as the fair value of the original award immediately before the original award is modified; the vesting conditions of the modified award are the same as the vesting conditions immediately before the original award is modified; and the classification of modified award as an equity instrument or a liability instrument is the same as the classification of the original award immediately before the original award is modified.	The adoption of this guidance could effect equity compensation expense and net income if there is a modification of an award. This guidance is effective January 1, 2018 with early adoption permitted.

ASU 2017-04: Intangibles - Goodwill and Other (Topic 350)

Requires that when an entity is performing its annual, or interim, goodwill impairment test, it should compare the fair value of the reporting unit with its carrying amount when calculating its impairment charge, noting that the loss recognized should not exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. Additionally, if applicable, an entity should consider income tax effects from any tax deductible goodwill on the carrying amount of the reporting unit when calculating its impairment charge.

As of December 31, 2016, we did not record a goodwill impairment charge related to our annual goodwill impairment test because at that time the fair value of each reporting unit exceeded its respective carrying value. If the carrying value of any of these reporting units exceeds the fair value when we perform a goodwill impairment test, we would record an impairment charge equal to the amount by which the carrying value exceeds its fair value. This guidance is effective January 1, 2020 with early adoption permitted for interim or annual goodwill impairment tests performed after January 1, 2017.

ASU 2016-02: Leases (Topic 842)

Requires that a lessee recognize at the commencement date: a lease liability, which is the obligation of the lessee to make lease payments arising from a lease, measured on a discounted basis; and a right-of-use asset, which is an asset that represents the lessee's right to use, or control the use of, a specified asset for the lease term.

We are currently assessing the provisions of this guidance and evaluating the timing and impact the guidance will have on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures. We are also in the process of aggregating operating lease documentation for review. The adoption of this ASU primarily impacts the balance sheet through the recognition of a right-of-use asset and a lease liability for all leases with terms in excess of 12 months and currently classified as operating leases. This guidance is effective January 1, 2019 using a modified retrospective transition approach with early adoption permitted.

ASU 2016-01: Financial Instruments - Overall (Topic 825-10)

Requires the following: (1) equity investments (except those accounted for under the equity method of accounting, or those that result in consolidation of the investee) to be measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in net income; (2) entities to use the exit price notion when measuring the fair value of financial instruments for disclosure purposes; (3) separate presentation of financial assets and financial liabilities by measurement category and form of financial asset; and (4) the elimination of the disclosure requirement to disclose the method(s) and significant assumptions used to estimate the fair value that is required to be disclosed for financial instruments measured at amortized cost.

The adoption of this guidance results in a cumulative-effect adjustment to the balance sheet, the recognition of changes in fair value of certain equity investments in net income, and enhanced disclosure. This guidance is effective January 1, 2018 with a cumulative-effect adjustment.

ASU 2014-09, as amended through May 2017: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)

The core principle of the guidance is that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.

We are currently evaluating the alternative methods of adoption and the effect of this guidance on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures. To assess the impact of this standard, internal resources have reviewed the amended guidance and attended training to assist with the interpretation and implementation of the amended guidance. We have also consulted with outside resources to assist in applying and implementing this guidance. We are currently in the process of identifying, reviewing and documenting material contracts and revenue streams that are impacted by this guidance. This guidance is effective January 1, 2018 using a full or modified retrospective approach with early adoption permitted January 1, 2017.

### 3. BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

We acquired one solid waste collection business in our Eastern region and one solid waste collection business in our Western region during the six months ended June 30, 2017. We acquired three transfer stations in our Western region during the three months ended June 30, 2016. The operating results of each acquired business is included in the accompanying unaudited consolidated statements of operations from the date of acquisition, and the purchase price has been allocated to the net assets acquired based on fair values at the date of acquisition, with the residual amount recorded as goodwill.

A summary of the purchase price for these acquisitions and the allocation of the purchase price for these acquisitions follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016
Purchase Price:		
Cash paid for acquisitions	\$ 2,664	\$ 2,439
Notes payable	2,400	—
Other non-cash considerations	100	—
Holdbacks	196	400
Total	5,360	2,839
Allocated as follows:		
Current assets	—	40
Land	—	353
Building	—	1,360
Equipment	2,291	269
Intangible assets	1,317	—
Other liabilities, net	(49)	(106)
Fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed	3,559	1,916
Excess purchase price allocated to goodwill	\$ 1,801	\$ 923

Unaudited pro forma combined information that shows our operational results as though each acquisition completed since the beginning of the prior fiscal year had occurred as of January 1, 2016 follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Revenue	\$ 154,729	\$ 145,911	\$ 289,715	\$ 273,408
Operating (loss) income	\$ (47,273)	\$ 15,625	\$ (40,685)	\$ 17,548
Net (loss) income attributable to common stockholders	\$ (53,673)	\$ 5,208	\$ (53,889)	\$ (2,435)
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding	41,811	41,132	41,698	41,064
Basic earnings per share attributable to common stockholders	\$ (1.28)	\$ 0.13	\$ (1.29)	\$ (0.06)
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	41,811	41,598	41,698	41,064
Diluted earnings per share attributable to common stockholders	\$ (1.28)	\$ 0.13	\$ (1.29)	\$ (0.06)

The pro forma results set forth in the table above have been prepared for comparative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the actual results of operations had the acquisitions occurred as of January 1, 2016 or of the results of our future operations. Furthermore, the pro forma results do not give effect to all cost savings or incremental costs that may occur as a result of the integration and consolidation of the completed acquisitions.

### 4. GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

A summary of the activity and balances related to goodwill by operating segment follows:

	December 31, 2016	Acquisitions	June 30, 2017
Eastern region	\$ 17,429	\$ 1,764	\$ 19,193
Western region	88,426	37	88,463
Recycling	12,315	—	12,315
Other	1,729	—	1,729
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 119,899</b>	<b>\$ 1,801</b>	<b>\$ 121,700</b>

A summary of intangible assets by intangible asset type follows:

	Covenants Not-to-Compete	Client Lists	Total
Balance, June 30, 2017			
Intangible assets	\$ 17,941	\$ 17,189	\$ 35,130
Less accumulated amortization	(16,627)	(10,334)	(26,961)
	<u>\$ 1,314</u>	<u>\$ 6,855</u>	<u>\$ 8,169</u>

	Covenants Not-to-Compete	Client Lists	Total
Balance, December 31, 2016			
Intangible assets	\$ 17,594	\$ 16,071	\$ 33,665
Less accumulated amortization	(16,402)	(9,567)	(25,969)
	<u>\$ 1,192</u>	<u>\$ 6,504</u>	<u>\$ 7,696</u>

Intangible amortization expense was \$505 and \$991 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared to \$519 and \$1,043 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively.

A summary of intangible amortization expense estimated for the five fiscal years following the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 and thereafter follows:

<b>Estimated Future Amortization Expense as of June 30, 2017</b>	
Fiscal year ending December 31, 2017	\$ 1,048
Fiscal year ending December 31, 2018	\$ 1,925
Fiscal year ending December 31, 2019	\$ 1,563
Fiscal year ending December 31, 2020	\$ 1,359
Fiscal year ending December 31, 2021	\$ 1,094
Thereafter	\$ 1,180

## 5. ACCRUED FINAL CAPPING, CLOSURE AND POST CLOSURE

Accrued final capping, closure and post-closure costs include the current and non-current portion of costs associated with obligations for final capping, closure and post-closure of our landfills. We estimate our future final capping, closure and post-closure costs in order to determine the final capping, closure and post-closure expense per ton of waste placed into each landfill. The anticipated time frame for paying these costs varies based on the remaining useful life of each landfill, as well as the duration of the post-closure monitoring period.

A summary of the changes to accrued final capping, closure and post-closure liabilities follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016
Beginning balance	\$ 44,207	\$ 41,041
Obligations incurred	1,310	1,143
Revisions in estimates (1)	9,598	(56)
Accretion expense	1,939	1,782
Obligations settled (2)	(307)	(432)
Ending balance	<u>\$ 56,747</u>	<u>\$ 43,478</u>

- (1) Relates to changes in estimates and assumptions concerning anticipated waste flow, cost and timing of future final capping, closure and post-closure activities at our Southbridge landfill associated with the Southbridge landfill closure. See Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* and Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* for disclosure regarding the matter.
- (2) Includes amounts that are being processed through accounts payable as a part of our disbursement cycle.

#### 6. OTHER ACCRUED LIABILITIES

A summary of other accrued liabilities, classified as current liabilities, follows:

	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Self insurance reserve - current portion	\$ 4,229	\$ 3,836
Other accrued liabilities	16,368	11,080
Total other accrued liabilities	<u>\$ 20,597</u>	<u>\$ 14,916</u>

## 7. LONG-TERM DEBT

A summary of long-term debt and capital leases by debt instrument follows:

	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
<b>Senior Secured Credit Facility:</b>		
Revolving Credit Facility due October 2021; bearing interest at LIBOR plus 2.75% and 3.00%, respectively	\$ 55,600	\$ 62,600
Term Loan B Facility due October 2023; bearing interest at LIBOR plus 2.75% and 3.00%, respectively	348,250	350,000
<b>Tax-Exempt Bonds:</b>		
New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014 due December 2044 - fixed rate interest period through 2019; bearing interest at 3.75%	25,000	25,000
New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014R-2 due December 2044 - fixed rate interest period through 2026; bearing interest at 3.125%	15,000	15,000
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-3 due January 2025 - fixed rate interest period through 2025; bearing interest at 5.25%	25,000	—
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2015 due August 2035 - fixed rate interest period through 2025; bearing interest at 5.125%	15,000	15,000
Vermont Economic Development Authority Solid Waste Disposal Long-Term Revenue Bonds Series 2013 due April 2036 - fixed rate interest period through 2018; bearing interest at 4.75%	16,000	16,000
Business Finance Authority of the State of New Hampshire Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2013 due April 2029 - fixed rate interest period through 2019; bearing interest at 4.00%	11,000	11,000
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-2 due January 2025 - fixed rate interest period through 2017; bore interest at 6.25%	—	21,400
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-1; letter of credit backed due January 2025 - bore interest at SIFMA Index	—	3,600
<b>Other:</b>		
Capital leases maturing through April 2023; bearing interest at up to 7.70%	5,363	5,534
Notes payable maturing through June 2027; bearing interest at up to 7.00%	2,945	449
Principal amount of long-term debt and capital leases	519,158	525,583
Less—unamortized discount and debt issuance costs (1)	16,550	16,936
Long-term debt and capital leases less unamortized discount and debt issuance costs	502,608	508,647
Less—current maturities of long-term debt	5,016	4,686
	<u>\$ 497,592</u>	<u>\$ 503,961</u>

(1) A summary of unamortized discount and debt issuance costs by debt instrument follows:

	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Revolving Credit Facility	\$ 4,452	\$ 4,965
Term Loan B Facility (including unamortized discount of \$1,598 and \$1,712)	7,970	7,718
New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014	1,128	1,221
New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014R-2	541	571
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-3	645	—
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2015	726	760
Vermont Economic Development Authority Solid Waste Disposal Long-Term Revenue Bonds Series 2013	589	605
Business Finance Authority of the State of New Hampshire Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2013	499	563
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-1	—	31
Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-2	—	502
	<u>\$ 16,550</u>	<u>\$ 16,936</u>

## Financing Activities

### *Term Loan B Facility*

In the three months ended June 30, 2017, we entered into the first amendment (“Repricing Amendment”) to our \$350,000 aggregate principal amount term loan B facility (“Term Loan B Facility”) and \$160,000 revolving line of credit facility (“Revolving Credit Facility” and, together with the Term Loan B Facility, the “Credit Facility”). The Repricing Amendment decreased the applicable interest margin for our Term Loan B Facility by 25 basis points for both LIBOR borrowings and base rate borrowings. The applicable interest rate margin will continue to be determined based on our consolidated net leverage ratio, with the interest currently set at 2.75% for LIBOR borrowings (with a 1.00% LIBOR floor), and 1.75% for base rate borrowings. The applicable interest rate will be reduced to 2.50% for LIBOR borrowings (with a 1.00% LIBOR floor), and 1.50% for base rate borrowings upon us reaching a consolidated net leverage ratio of 3.75 x or less.

### *Maine Bonds*

In the quarter ended March 31, 2017, we completed the remarketing of \$3,600 aggregate principal amount of Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-1 (“FAME Bonds 2005R-1”) and \$21,400 aggregate principal amount of Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-2 (“FAME Bonds 2005R-2”) into one series of \$25,000 aggregate principal amount Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-3 (“FAME Bonds 2005R-3”). The FAME Bonds 2005R-3, which are unsecured and guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries, accrue interest at 5.25% per annum until they mature on January 1, 2025.

## Loss on Debt Extinguishment

We recorded a loss on debt extinguishment of \$46 and \$517 in the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared to a loss on debt extinguishment of \$593 and \$545 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively, associated with the following:

- the write-off of debt issuance costs in connection with the amendment and repricing of our Term Loan B Facility in the three months ended June 30, 2017;
- the write-off of debt issuance costs in connection with the remarketing of the FAME Bonds 2005R-1 and the FAME Bonds 2005R-2 into the FAME Bonds 2005R-3 in the quarter ended March 31, 2017; and
- the write-off of debt issuance costs and unamortized original issue discount in proportion with the settlement amount, and the premium related to the redemption or repurchase price associated with the early retirement of \$19,730 of our 7.75% senior subordinated notes due February 2019 in the three and six months ended June 30, 2016.

## Cash Flow Hedges

In the quarter ended March 31, 2017, we entered into three interest rate derivative agreements to hedge interest rate risk associated with the variable rate portion of our long-term debt. The total notional amount of these agreements is \$60,000 and requires us to receive interest based on changes in the 1-month LIBOR index with a 1.0% floor and pay interest at a weighted average rate of approximately 1.95%. Two of the agreements, with a total notional amount of \$35,000, mature in February 2021, and the final agreement, with a total notional amount of \$25,000, matures in February 2022. We have designated these derivative instruments as cash flow hedges.

In accordance with the derivatives and hedging guidance in FASB ASC 815 - Derivatives and Hedging, the effective portions of the changes in fair values of interest rate swaps have been recorded in equity as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax. As the critical terms of the interest rate swaps match the underlying debt being hedged, no ineffectiveness is recognized on these swaps and, therefore, all unrealized changes in fair value are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax. Amounts are reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax into earnings in the same period or periods during which the hedged transaction affects earnings.

As of June 30, 2017, we have recorded a derivative asset with a fair value of \$95 in other non-current assets and a derivative liability with a fair value of \$373 in other accrued liabilities associated with these cash flow hedges.

## 8. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

### Legal Proceedings

In the ordinary course of our business and as a result of the extensive governmental regulation of the solid waste industry, we are subject to various judicial and administrative proceedings involving state and local agencies. In these proceedings, an agency may seek to impose fines or to revoke or deny renewal of an operating permit held by us. From time to time, we may also be subject to actions brought by special interest or other groups, adjacent landowners or residents in connection with the permitting and licensing of landfills and transfer stations, or allegations of environmental damage or violations of the permits and licenses pursuant to which we operate. In addition, we may be named defendants in various claims and suits pending for alleged damages to persons and property, alleged violations of certain laws and alleged liabilities arising out of matters occurring during the ordinary operation of a waste management business.

In accordance with FASB ASC 450 - Contingencies, we accrue for legal proceedings, inclusive of legal costs, when losses become probable and reasonably estimable. As of the end of each applicable reporting period, we review each of our legal proceedings to determine whether it is probable, reasonably possible or remote that a liability has been incurred and, if it is at least reasonably possible, whether a range of loss can be reasonably estimated under the provisions of FASB ASC 450-20. In instances where we determine that a loss is probable and we can reasonably estimate a range of loss we may incur with respect to such a matter, we record an accrual for the amount within the range that constitutes our best estimate of the possible loss. If we are able to reasonably estimate a range, but no amount within the range appears to be a better estimate than any other, we record an accrual in the amount that is the low end of such range. When a loss is reasonably possible, but not probable, we will not record an accrual, but we will disclose our estimate of the possible range of loss where such estimate can be made in accordance with FASB ASC 450-20.

### Environmental Remediation Liability

We are subject to liability for environmental damage, including personal injury and property damage, that our solid waste, recycling and power generation facilities may cause to neighboring property owners, particularly as a result of the contamination of drinking water sources or soil, possibly including damage resulting from conditions that existed before we acquired the facilities. We may also be subject to liability for similar claims arising from off-site environmental contamination caused by pollutants or hazardous substances if we or our predecessors arrange or arranged to transport, treat or dispose of those materials. The following matters represent our material outstanding claims.

#### *Southbridge Recycling & Disposal Park, Inc.*

In October 2015, our Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park, Inc. ("SRD") subsidiary reported to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MADEP") results of analysis of samples collected pursuant to our existing permit from private drinking water wells located near the Town of Southbridge, Massachusetts ("Town") Landfill ("Southbridge Landfill"), which is operated by SRD. Those results indicated the presence of contaminants above the levels triggering notice and response obligations under MADEP regulations. In response to those results, we are carrying out an Immediate Response Action pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 21E (the "Charlton 21E Obligations") pursuant to state law. Further, we have implemented a plan to analyze and better understand the groundwater near the Southbridge Landfill and we are investigating with the objective of identifying the source or sources of the elevated levels of contamination measured in the well samples. If it is determined that some or all of the contamination originated at the Southbridge Landfill, we will work with the Town, the Southbridge Landfill owner and the former operator of an unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill, which was used prior to our operation of a double-lined portion of the Southbridge Landfill commencing in 2004, to evaluate and allocate the liabilities related to the Charlton 21E Obligations. In July 2016, we sent correspondence to the Town pursuant to Chapter 21E of Massachusetts General Laws ("Chapter 21E") demanding that the Town reimburse us for the environmental response costs we had spent and that the Town be responsible for all such costs in the future, as well as any other costs or liabilities resulting from the release of contaminants from the unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill. The Town responded in September 2016, denying that the Southbridge Landfill is the source of such contamination, and claiming that if it is, that we may owe an indemnity to the Town pursuant to the Operating Agreement between us and the Town dated May 29, 2007, as amended. As of June 30, 2017, we have incurred total costs of approximately \$3,745. We entered into a Tolling Agreement with the Town to delay any further administrative or legal actions until our work with MADEP more specifically defines the parties' responsibilities for the Charlton 21E Obligations, if any. Please see below for further discussion of our relationship with the Town regarding the Charlton 21E Obligations. See also Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* for information regarding the Southbridge landfill closure charge.

In February 2016, we and the Town received a Notice of Intent to Sue under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") from a law firm purporting to represent residents proximate to the Southbridge Landfill ("Residents"), indicating its intent to file suit against us on behalf of the Residents alleging the groundwater contamination originated from the Southbridge Landfill. In February 2017, we received an additional Notice of Intent to Sue from the National Environmental Law Center under the Federal Clean Water Act ("CWA") and RCRA (collectively the "Acts") on behalf of Environment America, Inc., d/b/a Environment Massachusetts, and Toxics Action Center, Inc., which have referred to themselves as the Citizen Groups. The Citizen Groups alleged that we had violated the Acts, and that they intended to seek appropriate relief in federal court for those alleged violations. On or about June 9, 2017, a lawsuit was filed against us, SRD and the Town in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts by the Citizen Groups and the Residents alleging violations of the Acts (the "Litigation"), and demanding a variety of remedies under the Acts, including fines, remediation, mitigation and costs of litigation, and remedies for violations of Massachusetts civil law related to personal and property damages, including remediation, diminution of property values, compensation for lost use and enjoyment of properties, enjoinder of further operation of the Southbridge Landfill, and costs of litigation, plus interest on any damage award, on behalf of the Residents. We believe the Litigation to be factually inaccurate, and without legal merit, and we and SRD intend to vigorously defend the Litigation. Nevertheless, we believe it is reasonably possible that a loss will occur as a result of the Litigation although an estimate of loss cannot be reasonably provided at this time due to the infancy of this matter. We also continue to believe the Town should be responsible for costs or liabilities associated with the Litigation relative to alleged contamination originating from the unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill, although there can be no assurance that we will not be required to incur some or all of such costs and liabilities.

We entered into an Administrative Consent Order on April 26, 2017 (the "ACO"), with MADEP, the Town, and the Town of Charlton, committing us to equally share the costs with MADEP, of up to \$10,000 ( \$5,000 each) for the Town to install a municipal waterline in the Town of Charlton ("Waterline"). Upon satisfactory completion of that Waterline, and other matters covered by the ACO, we and the Town will be released by MADEP from any future responsibilities for the Charlton Chapter 21E Obligations. We also entered into an agreement with the Town on April 28, 2017 entitled the "21E Settlement and Water System Construction Funding Agreement" (the "Waterline Agreement"), wherein we and the Town released each other from claims arising from the Charlton 21E Obligations. Pursuant to the Waterline Agreement, the Town will issue a twenty ( 20 ) year bond for our portion of the Waterline costs (up to \$5,000 ). We have agreed to reimburse the Town for periodic payments under such bond. As of June 30, 2017 , we have recorded an environmental remediation liability of \$6,379 associated with the future installation of the Waterline in other accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities. We inflated the estimated costs in current dollars to the expected time of payment and discount the total cost to present value using a risk free interest rate of 2.6% . Our expenditures could be significantly higher if costs exceed estimates. See Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* for information regarding the Southbridge landfill closure charge.

In August 2016, we filed a complaint against Steadfast Insurance Company ("Steadfast") in the Superior Court of Suffolk County, Massachusetts, alleging among other things, that Steadfast breached its Pollution Liability Policy ("Policy") purchased by us in April 2015, by refusing to acknowledge coverage under the Policy, and refusing to cover any of the costs and liabilities incurred by us as described above as well as costs and liabilities that we may incur in the future. Steadfast filed an answer and counterclaim in September 2016, denying that it has any obligations to us under the Policy, and seeking a declaratory judgment of Steadfast's obligations under the Policy. We are in the discovery phase of this litigation. Steadfast has filed a Motion to Dismiss our litigation against it, and we filed our response on July 11, 2017.

The costs and liabilities we may be required to incur in connection with the foregoing Southbridge Landfill matters could be material to our results of operations, our cash flows and our financial condition. On June 13, 2017, Town voters rejected a non-binding ballot initiative intended to provide guidance to Town officials with respect to our pursuit of other landfill development opportunities at the Southbridge Landfill. Following such rejection by the Town voters, our board of directors and senior management determined after due consideration of all facts and circumstances that it is no longer likely that further development at the existing landfill site will generate an adequate risk adjusted return at the Southbridge Landfill, and accordingly we expect to cease operations at the Southbridge Landfill when no further capacity is available, expected by no later than December 31, 2018. We have delivered correspondence to the Town to this effect on August 3, 2017, citing events of Change in Law and Force Majeure pursuant to our May 29, 2007 Extension Agreement with the Town ("Extension Agreement") and the impacts of such events on further expansion of the Southbridge Landfill. We have advised the Town that we see no economically feasible way to operate the Southbridge Landfill beyond its current permitted life. Following cessation of operations, we will proceed to conduct proper closure and other activities at the Southbridge Landfill in accordance with the Extension Agreement with the Town, and Federal, state and local law. We reached this conclusion after carefully evaluating the estimated future costs associated with the permitting, engineering and construction activities for the planned expansion of the Southbridge Landfill against the possible outcomes of the permitting process and the anticipated future benefits of successful expansions. Under the Extension Agreement, which we account for as an operating lease, there are potential contractual obligations and commitments, including future cash payments of \$3,069 and services that extend beyond the current useful life of the Southbridge Landfill. In accordance with ASC 420 - Exit or Disposal Cost Obligations, a liability for costs to be incurred under a contract for its remaining term without economic benefit shall be recognized when we cease using the right conveyed by the contract. We may incur a loss associated with these potential contractual obligations upon cessation of operations at the Southbridge Landfill, when remaining capacity is exhausted by the placement of waste at the site.

#### *Potsdam Environmental Remediation Liability*

On December 20, 2000, the State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") issued an Order on Consent ("Order") which named Waste-Stream, Inc. ("WSI"), our subsidiary, General Motors Corporation ("GM") and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation ("NiMo") as Respondents. The Order required that the Respondents undertake certain work on a 25 -acre scrap yard and solid waste transfer station owned by WSI in Potsdam, New York, including the preparation of a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study ("Study"). A draft of the Study was submitted to the DEC in January 2009 (followed by a final report in May 2009). The Study estimated that the undiscounted costs associated with implementing the preferred remedies would be approximately \$10,219 . On February 28, 2011, the DEC issued a Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the site and accepted public comments on the proposed remedy through March 29, 2011. We submitted comments to the DEC on this matter. In April 2011, the DEC issued the final Record of Decision ("ROD") for the site. The ROD was subsequently rescinded by the DEC for failure to respond to all submitted comments. The preliminary ROD, however, estimated that the present cost associated with implementing the preferred remedies would be approximately \$12,130 . The DEC issued the final ROD in June 2011 with proposed remedies consistent with its earlier ROD. An Order on Consent and Administrative Settlement naming WSI and NiMo as Respondents was executed by the Respondents and DEC with an effective date of October 25, 2013. On January 29, 2016, a Cost-Sharing Agreement was executed between WSI, NiMo, Alcoa Inc. ("Alcoa") and Reynolds Metal Company ("Reynolds") whereby Alcoa and Reynolds elected to voluntarily participate in the onsite remediation activities at a 15% participant share. It is unlikely that any significant expenditures relating to onsite remediation will be incurred until the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. WSI is jointly and severally liable with NiMo, Alcoa and Reynolds for the total cost to remediate.

We have recorded an environmental remediation liability associated with the Potsdam site based on incurred costs to date and estimated costs to complete the remediation in other accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities. Our expenditures could be significantly higher if costs exceed estimates. We inflate the estimated costs in current dollars to the expected time of payment and discount the total cost to present value using a risk free interest rate of 1.5% . The changes to the environmental remediation liability associated with the Potsdam site are as follows:

	<u>Six Months Ended June 30,</u>	
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 5,866	\$ 5,221
Obligations settled (1)	(5)	—
Ending balance	<u>\$ 5,861</u>	<u>\$ 5,221</u>

(1) Includes amounts that are being processed through accounts payable as a part of our disbursement cycle.

## **9. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

## Stock Based Compensation

### Shares Available For Issuance

In the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, we adopted the 2016 Incentive Plan (“2016 Plan”). Under the 2016 Plan, we may grant awards up to an aggregate amount of shares equal to the sum of: (i) 2,250 shares of Class A common stock (subject to adjustment in the event of stock splits and other similar events), plus (ii) such additional number of shares of Class A common stock (up to 2,723 shares) as is equal to the sum of the number of shares of Class A common stock that remained available for grant under the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan (“2006 Plan”) immediately prior to the expiration of the 2006 Plan and the number of shares of Class A common stock subject to awards granted under the 2006 Plan that expire, terminate or are otherwise surrendered, canceled, forfeited or repurchased by us. As of June 30, 2017, there were 1,897 Class A common stock equivalents available for future grant under the 2016 Plan.

### Stock Options

Stock options are granted at a price equal to the prevailing fair value of our Class A common stock at the date of grant. Generally, stock options granted have a term not to exceed ten years and vest over a one year to four year period from the date of grant.

The fair value of each stock option granted, with the exception of market-based performance stock option grants, is estimated using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model, which requires extensive use of accounting judgment and financial estimation, including estimates of the expected term stock option holders will retain their vested stock options before exercising them and the estimated volatility of our Class A common stock price over the expected term. The fair value of each market-based performance stock option granted is estimated using a Monte Carlo option-pricing model, which also requires extensive use of accounting judgment and financial estimation, including estimates of the expected term stock option holders will retain their vested stock options before exercising them and the estimated volatility of our Class A common stock price over the expected term, but also including estimates of share price appreciation plus the value of dividends of our Class A common stock as compared to the Russell 2000 Index over the requisite service period.

A summary of stock option activity follows:

	Stock Options (1)	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding, December 31, 2016	1,115	\$ 6.13		
Granted	—	\$ —		
Exercised	(78)	\$ 11.01		
Forfeited	(2)	\$ 4.06		
Outstanding, June 30, 2017	1,035	\$ 5.76	5.7	\$ 11,020
Exercisable, June 30, 2017	702	\$ 5.15	4.6	\$ 7,897
Unvested, June 30, 2017	373	\$ 7.62	8.2	\$ 3,280

- (1) Market-based performance stock options are included at the 100% attainment level. Attainment of the maximum performance targets and market achievements would result in the issuance of an additional 40 shares of Class A common stock currently included in unvested.

Stock-based compensation expense for stock options was \$176 and \$347 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared to \$146 and \$292 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively.

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, the aggregate intrinsic value of stock options exercised was \$153 and \$206, respectively.

As of June 30, 2017, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to outstanding stock options, including market-based performance stock options assuming the attainment of maximum performance targets, was \$771, which will be recognized over a weighted average period of 0.8 years.

### Other Stock Awards

Restricted stock awards, restricted stock units and performance stock units, with the exception of market-based performance stock units, are granted at a price equal to the fair value of our Class A common stock at the date of grant. The fair value of each market-based performance stock unit is estimated using a Monte Carlo pricing model, which requires extensive use of accounting judgment and financial estimation, including the estimated share price appreciation plus the value of dividends of our Class A common stock as compared to the Russell 2000 Index over the requisite service period.

Restricted stock awards granted to non-employee directors vest incrementally over a three year period beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant. Restricted stock units granted to non-employee directors vest in full on the first anniversary of the grant date. Restricted stock units granted to employees vest incrementally over an identified service period beginning on the grant date based on continued employment. Performance stock units granted to employees, including market-based performance stock units, vest at a future date following the grant date and are based on the attainment of performance targets and market achievements, as applicable.

A summary of restricted stock, restricted stock unit and performance stock unit activity follows:

	<b>Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, and Performance Stock Units (1)</b>	<b>Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value</b>	<b>Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)</b>	<b>Aggregate Intrinsic Value</b>
Outstanding, December 31, 2016	1,099	\$ 7.03		
Granted	438	\$ 12.32		
Class A Common Stock Vested	(370)	\$ 5.07		
Forfeited	(18)	\$ 5.99		
Outstanding, June 30, 2017	1,149	\$ 9.63	1.8	\$ 7,784
Unvested, June 30, 2017	1,512	\$ 10.32	1.9	\$ 9,190

- (1) Market-based performance stock unit grants are included at the 100% attainment level. Attainment of the maximum performance targets and market achievements would result in the issuance of an additional 363 shares of Class A common stock currently included in unvested.

Stock-based compensation expense related to restricted stock, restricted stock units and performance stock units was \$1,441 and \$2,499 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared to \$729 and \$1,278 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively.

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, the total fair value of other stock awards vested was \$1,362 and \$4,770, respectively.

As of June 30, 2017, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to outstanding restricted stock and restricted stock units was \$4,437, which will be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.6 years. As of June 30, 2017, maximum unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to outstanding performance stock units, assuming the attainment of maximum performance targets, was \$6,980 to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.0 years.

The weighted average fair value of market-based performance stock units granted during the six months ended June 30, 2017 was \$12.51 per award, which was calculated using a Monte Carlo pricing model assuming a risk free interest rate of 1.45% and an expected volatility of 32.80% assuming no expected dividend yield. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve for the expected service period of the award. Expected volatility is calculated using the daily volatility of our Class A common stock over the expected service period of the award.

The Monte Carlo pricing model requires extensive use of accounting judgment and financial estimation. Application of alternative assumptions could produce significantly different estimates of the fair value of stock-based compensation and consequently, the related amounts recognized in the consolidated statements of operations.

We also recorded \$37 and \$65 of stock-based compensation expense related to our Amended and Restated 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan during the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared to \$26 and \$52 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively.

### Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

A summary of the changes in the balances of each component of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax follows:

	Marketable Securities	Interest Rate Swaps
Balance, December 31, 2016	\$ (68)	\$ —
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	46	(472)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	—	208
Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss)	46	(264)
Balance, June 30, 2017	\$ (22)	\$ (264)

A summary of reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax follows:

Details About Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss Components	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,		Affected Line Item in the Consolidated Statements of Operations
	2017	2016	2017	2016	
	Amounts Reclassified Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss				
Interest rate swaps	\$ 138	\$ —	\$ 208	\$ —	Interest expense
	138	—	208	—	(Loss) income before income taxes
	—	—	—	—	Provision for income taxes
	\$ 138	\$ —	\$ 208	\$ —	Net (loss) income

### 10. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing the net (loss) income from continuing operations attributable to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is calculated based on the combined weighted average number of common shares and potentially dilutive shares, which include the assumed exercise of employee stock options, including market-based performance stock options based on the expected achievement of performance targets, unvested restricted stock awards, unvested restricted stock units and unvested performance stock units, including market-based performance units based on the expected achievement of performance targets. In computing diluted earnings per share, we utilize the treasury stock method.

A summary of the numerator and denominators used in the computation of earnings per share follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
<b>Numerator:</b>				
Net (loss) income attributable to common stockholders	\$ (53,675)	\$ 5,195	\$ (53,900)	\$ (2,413)
<b>Denominators:</b>				
Number of shares outstanding, end of period:				
Class A common stock	41,042	40,500	41,042	40,500
Class B common stock	988	988	988	988
Unvested restricted stock	(88)	(115)	(88)	(115)
Effect of weighted average shares outstanding	(131)	(241)	(244)	(309)
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding	41,811	41,132	41,698	41,064
Impact of potentially dilutive securities:				
Dilutive effect of stock options and other stock awards	—	466	—	—
Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding	41,811	41,598	41,698	41,064
Anti-dilutive potentially issuable shares	2,586	473	2,586	2,211

## 11. Other Items and Charges

### Southbridge Landfill Closure Charge

In June 2017, we initiated the plan to cease operations of our Southbridge landfill as disclosed in Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies*. Accordingly, in the three months ended June 30, 2017, we recorded a charge associated with the closure of our Southbridge landfill as follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Asset impairment charge (1)	\$ 47,999	\$ —	\$ 47,999	\$ —
Project development charge (2)	9,148	—	9,148	—
Environmental remediation charge (3)	6,379	—	6,379	—
Legal and transaction costs (4)	588	—	588	—
Southbridge landfill closure charge	\$ 64,114	\$ —	\$ 64,114	\$ —

- (1) We performed a test of recoverability under FASB ASC 360 - Property, Plant, and Equipment, which indicated that the carrying value of our asset group that includes the Southbridge landfill was no longer recoverable and, as a result, the asset group was assessed for impairment with an impairment charge allocated to the long-lived assets of Southbridge landfill in accordance with FASB ASC 360 - Property, Plant, and Equipment. See Note 12, *Fair Value of Financial Instruments* for additional disclosure.
- (2) We wrote-off deferred costs associated with landfill permitting activities no longer deemed viable.
- (3) We recorded an environmental remediation charge associated with the future installation of a municipal waterline. See Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* for additional disclosure.
- (4) We incurred legal and other transaction costs associated with various matters as part of the Southbridge landfill closure. See Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* for additional disclosure.

## 12. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

We use a three-tier fair value hierarchy to classify and disclose all assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis, as well as assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis, in periods subsequent to their initial measurement. These tiers include: Level 1, defined as quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities; Level 2, defined as inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; and Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data.

We use valuation techniques that maximize the use of market prices and observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. In measuring the fair value of our financial assets and liabilities, we rely on market data or assumptions that we believe market participants would use in pricing an asset or a liability.

#### Assets and Liabilities Accounted for at Fair Value

Our financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable-trade, restricted cash and investments held in trust on deposit with various banks as collateral for our obligations relative to our landfill final capping, closure and post-closure costs, interest rate derivatives, trade payables and long-term debt. The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable - trade and trade payables approximate their respective fair values due to their short-term nature. The fair value of restricted cash and investments held in trust, which are valued using quoted market prices, are included as restricted assets in the Level 1 tier below. The fair value of the interest rate derivatives included in the Level 2 tier below was calculated using discounted cash flow valuation methodologies based upon the one month LIBOR yield curves that are observable at commonly quoted intervals for the full term of the swaps.

#### Recurring Fair Value Measurements

Summaries of our financial assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis follow:

	Fair Value Measurement at June 30, 2017 Using:		
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Assets:</b>			
Interest rate derivatives	\$ —	\$ 95	\$ —
Restricted investments - landfill closure	1,065	—	—
Total	\$ 1,065	\$ 95	\$ —
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Interest rate derivatives	\$ —	\$ 373	\$ —
	Fair Value Measurement at December 31, 2016 Using:		
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Assets:</b>			
Restricted investments - landfill closure	\$ 1,002	\$ —	\$ —

#### Non-Recurring Fair Value Measurements

A summary of our financial assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis follows:

	Fair Value Measurement at June 30, 2017 Using:		
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Assets:			
Southbridge landfill asset group - long-lived assets	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 8,017

As of June 30, 2017, our financial assets and liabilities recorded at fair value on a non-recurring basis include our asset group that includes the Southbridge landfill. The fair value of our asset group that includes the Southbridge landfill was measured by a third-party valuation specialist who completed a valuation analysis using an income approach based on discounted cash flows. See Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* and Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* for additional disclosure regarding the Southbridge landfill.

#### Fair Value of Debt

As of June 30, 2017, the fair value of our fixed rate debt, including our FAME Bonds 2005R-3, Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2015 (“FAME Bonds 2015”), Vermont Economic Development Authority Solid Waste Disposal Long-Term Revenue Bonds Series 2013 (“Vermont Bonds”), New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014 (“New York Bonds 2014”), New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014R-2 (“New York Bonds 2016”) and Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2013 issued by the Business Finance Authority of the State of New Hampshire (“New Hampshire Bonds”) was approximately \$106,183 and the carrying value was \$107,000. The fair value of the FAME Bonds 2005R-3, the FAME Bonds 2015, the Vermont Bonds, the New York Bonds 2014, the New York Bonds 2016 and the New Hampshire Bonds is considered to be Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy as the fair value is determined using market approach pricing provided by a third-party that utilizes pricing models and pricing systems, mathematical tools and judgment to determine the evaluated price for the security based on the market information of each of the bonds or securities with similar characteristics.

As of June 30, 2017, the fair value of our Term Loan B Facility was approximately \$349,556 and the carrying value was \$348,250. The fair value of the Term Loan B Facility is considered to be Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy as its fair value is based off of quoted market prices in a principal to principal market with limited public information. As of June 30, 2017, the fair value of our Revolving Credit Facility approximated its carrying value of \$55,600 based on current borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements, or Level 2 inputs.

Although we have determined the estimated fair value amounts of the Term Loan B Facility, FAME Bonds 2005R-3, FAME Bonds 2015, Vermont Bonds, New York Bonds 2014, New York Bonds 2016 and New Hampshire Bonds using available market information and commonly accepted valuation methodologies, a change in available market information, and/or the use of different assumptions and/or estimation methodologies could have a material effect on the estimated fair values. These amounts have not been revalued, and current estimates of fair value could differ significantly from the amounts presented.

### 13. SEGMENT REPORTING

We report selected information about operating segments in a manner consistent with that used for internal management reporting. We classify our solid waste operations on a geographic basis through regional operating segments, our Western and Eastern regions. Revenues associated with our solid waste operations are derived mainly from solid waste collection and disposal, landfill, landfill gas-to-energy, transfer and recycling services in the northeastern United States. Our revenues in the Recycling segment are derived from municipalities and customers in the form of processing fees, tipping fees and commodity sales. Organics services, ancillary operations, major account and industrial services, discontinued operations, and earnings from equity method investees, as applicable, are included in our Other segment.

**Three Months Ended June 30, 2017**

Segment	Outside revenues	Inter-company revenue	Depreciation and amortization	Operating income (loss)	Total assets
Eastern	\$ 46,574	\$ 13,202	\$ 6,423	\$ (60,324)	\$ 158,042
Western	64,372	18,625	7,586	10,770	328,207
Recycling	16,211	(245)	1,019	1,064	50,398
Other	26,859	611	840	1,211	52,230
Eliminations	—	(32,193)	—	—	—
Total	\$ 154,016	\$ —	\$ 15,868	\$ (47,279)	\$ 588,877

**Three Months Ended June 30, 2016**

Segment	Outside revenues	Inter-company revenue	Depreciation and amortization	Operating income (loss)	Total assets
Eastern	\$ 45,405	\$ 11,692	\$ 7,138	\$ 3,079	\$ 208,316
Western	59,460	17,889	6,908	10,175	319,480
Recycling	12,816	302	1,040	468	48,782
Other	26,989	404	716	1,874	55,043
Eliminations	—	(30,287)	—	—	—
Total	\$ 144,670	\$ —	\$ 15,802	\$ 15,596	\$ 631,621

**Six Months Ended June 30, 2017**

Segment	Outside revenues	Inter-company revenue	Depreciation and amortization	Operating income (loss)	Total assets
Eastern	\$ 85,260	\$ 22,724	\$ 11,827	\$ (60,304)	\$ 158,042
Western	118,515	34,407	14,191	14,859	328,207
Recycling	32,846	(489)	2,022	2,647	50,398
Other	51,197	985	1,677	2,084	52,230
Eliminations	—	(57,627)	—	—	—
Total	\$ 287,818	\$ —	\$ 29,717	\$ (40,714)	\$ 588,877

**Six Months Ended June 30, 2016**

Segment	Outside revenues	Inter-company revenue	Depreciation and amortization	Operating income (loss)	Total assets
Eastern	\$ 84,392	\$ 21,229	\$ 13,327	\$ 2,291	\$ 208,316
Western	111,922	32,740	13,398	13,169	319,480
Recycling	23,454	933	2,132	(606)	48,782
Other	50,335	684	1,398	2,716	55,043
Eliminations	—	(55,586)	—	—	—
Total	\$ 270,103	\$ —	\$ 30,255	\$ 17,570	\$ 631,621

A summary of our revenues attributable to services provided follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Collection	\$ 66,308	\$ 63,685	\$ 126,145	\$ 121,536
Disposal	42,172	39,384	73,454	71,637
Power generation	1,554	1,460	2,906	3,167
Processing	2,137	1,747	3,796	2,720
Solid waste operations	112,171	106,276	206,301	199,060
Organics	11,005	12,171	20,219	21,106
Customer solutions	14,629	13,407	28,452	26,483
Recycling	16,211	12,816	32,846	23,454
Total revenues	\$ 154,016	\$ 144,670	\$ 287,818	\$ 270,103

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included under Item 1. In addition, reference should be made to our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and related Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on March 2, 2017.

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and, in particular, this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, may contain or incorporate a number of forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including:

- the projected development of additional disposal capacity or expectations regarding permits for existing capacity;
- the outcome of any legal or regulatory matter;
- expected liquidity and financing plans;
- expected future revenues, operations, expenditures and cash needs;
- fluctuations in the commodity pricing of our recyclables, increases in landfill tipping fees and fuel costs and general economic and weather conditions;
- projected future obligations related to final capping, closure and post-closure costs of our existing landfills and any disposal facilities which we may own or operate in the future;
- our ability to use our net operating losses and tax positions;
- our ability to service our debt obligations;
- the recoverability or impairment of any of our assets or goodwill;
- estimates of the potential markets for our products and services, including the anticipated drivers for future growth;
- sales and marketing plans or price and volume assumptions;
- potential business combinations or divestitures; and
- projected improvements to our infrastructure and the impact of such improvements on our business and operations.

In addition, any statements contained in or incorporated by reference into this report that are not statements of historical fact should be considered forward-looking statements. You can identify these forward-looking statements by the use of the words "believes", "expects", "anticipates", "plans", "may", "will", "would", "intends", "estimates" and other similar expressions, whether in the negative or affirmative. These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about the industry and markets in which we operate, as well as management's beliefs and assumptions, and should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, circumstances or events. The occurrence of the events described and the achievement of the expected results depends on many events, some or all of which are not predictable or within our control. Actual results may differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.

There are a number of important risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, those detailed in Item 1A, "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 and, if applicable, those included under Part II, Item 1A of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

There may be additional risks that we are not presently aware of or that we currently believe are immaterial, which could have an adverse impact on our business. We explicitly disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as otherwise required by law.

## Company Overview

Founded in 1975 with a single truck, Casella Waste Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, its wholly-owned subsidiaries and certain partially owned entities over which it has a controlling financial interest (collectively, “we”, “us” or “our”), is a regional, vertically-integrated solid waste services company. We provide resource management expertise and services to residential, commercial, municipal and industrial customers, primarily in the areas of solid waste collection and disposal, transfer, recycling and organics services. We provide integrated solid waste services in six states: Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts, Maine and Pennsylvania, with our headquarters located in Rutland, Vermont. We manage our solid waste operations on a geographic basis through two regional operating segments, the Eastern and Western regions, each of which provides a full range of solid waste services, and our larger-scale recycling and commodity brokerage operations through our Recycling segment. Organics services, ancillary operations, major account and industrial services, discontinued operations, and earnings from equity method investees, as applicable, are included in our Other segment.

As of July 15, 2017, we owned and/or operated 32 solid waste collection operations, 46 transfer stations, 18 recycling facilities, nine Subtitle D landfills, four landfill gas-to-energy facilities and one landfill permitted to accept construction and demolition (“C&D”) materials.

## Recent Events

In the three months ended June 30, 2017, we recorded a charge of \$64.1 million associated with our decision to cease operations at the Southbridge landfill, including an asset impairment charge of \$48.0 million related to our asset group that includes the Southbridge landfill asset; a project development charge of \$9.1 million related to the write-off of deferred costs associated with landfill permitting activities no longer deemed viable; an environmental remediation charge of \$6.4 million associated with the future installation of a municipal waterline; and a charge of \$0.6 million for legal and transaction costs associated with various matters as part of the Southbridge landfill closure. As part of our decision to cease operations, we assessed the estimated costs and timing of cash flows associated with remaining capital expenditures, environmental remediation, and final capping, closure and post-closure activities at the Southbridge landfill. We expect cash outflows in the next five years associated with these activities to be approximately \$21.0 million and we do not believe that this will negatively impact our liquidity during this time. In addition, we estimate that over \$50.0 million in additional tax deductions relating to ceasing operations will be recognized in the next five years. Furthermore, we do not believe that ceasing operations at the Southbridge landfill will impact our future operational activities in a manner that will have a material impact to our results of operations, our cash flows or our financial condition. For additional information, see Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* and Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

## Results of Operations

### Revenues

We manage our solid waste operations, which include a full range of solid waste services, on a geographic basis through two regional operating segments, which we designate as the Eastern and Western regions. Revenues in our Eastern and Western regions consist primarily of fees charged to customers for solid waste collection and disposal, landfill, landfill gas-to-energy, transfer and recycling services. We derive a substantial portion of our collection revenues from commercial, industrial and municipal services that are generally performed under service agreements or pursuant to contracts with municipalities. The majority of our residential collection services are performed on a subscription basis with individual households. Landfill and transfer customers are charged a tipping fee on a per ton basis for disposing of their solid waste at our disposal facilities and transfer stations. We also generate and sell electricity at certain of our landfill facilities. Revenues from our Recycling segment consist of revenues derived from municipalities and customers in the form of processing fees, tipping fees and commodity sales. Revenues from organics services, ancillary operations, and major account and industrial services are included in our Other segment. Our revenues are shown net of inter-company eliminations.

A summary of revenues attributable to service provided (dollars in millions and as a percentage of total revenues) follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,				\$ Change	Six Months Ended June 30,				\$ Change
	2017		2016			2017		2016		
Collection	\$ 66.3	43.1%	\$ 63.7	44.0%	\$ 2.6	\$ 126.1	43.8%	\$ 121.5	45.0%	\$ 4.6
Disposal	42.2	27.4%	39.4	27.2%	2.8	73.5	25.5%	71.6	26.5%	1.9
Power	1.6	1.0%	1.5	1.0%	0.1	2.9	1.0%	3.2	1.2%	(0.3)
Processing	2.1	1.3%	1.7	1.3%	0.4	3.8	1.4%	2.7	1.0%	1.1
Solid waste	112.2	72.8%	106.3	73.5%	5.9	206.3	71.7%	199.0	73.7%	7.3
Organics	11.0	7.2%	12.2	8.4%	(1.2)	20.2	7.0%	21.1	7.8%	(0.9)
Customer solutions	14.6	9.5%	13.4	9.3%	1.2	28.5	9.9%	26.5	9.8%	2.0
Recycling	16.2	10.5%	12.8	8.8%	3.4	32.8	11.4%	23.5	8.7%	9.3
Total revenues	\$ 154.0	100.0%	\$ 144.7	100.0%	\$ 9.3	\$ 287.8	100.0%	\$ 270.1	100.0%	\$ 17.7

A summary of the period-to-period changes in solid waste revenues (dollars in millions) follows:

	Period-to-Period Change for the Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 vs. 2016		Period-to-Period Change for the Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 vs. 2016	
	Amount	% of Growth	Amount	% of Growth
	Price	\$ 2.8	1.9 %	\$ 5.1
Volume	2.4	1.6 %	0.8	0.4 %
Fuel surcharge and other fees	(0.2)	(0.1)%	(0.2)	(0.1)%
Commodity price and volume	0.4	0.3 %	0.7	0.2 %
Acquisitions and divestitures	0.5	0.4 %	0.9	0.3 %
Solid waste revenues	\$ 5.9	4.1 %	\$ 7.3	2.7 %

#### *Solid waste revenues*

##### Price.

The price change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$ 1.8 million from favorable collection pricing; and
- \$ 1.0 million from favorable disposal pricing associated with our landfills and transfer stations.

The price change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$ 3.2 million from favorable collection pricing; and
- \$ 1.9 million from favorable disposal pricing associated with our landfills and transfer stations.

##### Volume.

The volume change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$ 1.8 million from higher disposal volumes (of which \$1.1 million relates to higher landfill volumes, after netting the diversion of tons from our Southbridge landfill, \$0.5 million relates to higher transfer station volumes, and \$0.2 million relates to higher transportation volumes); and
- \$ 0.5 million from higher collection volumes.

The volume change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$ 1.0 million from higher collection volumes; partially offset by

- \$ (0.3) million from lower disposal volumes (of which \$(0.5) million relates to lower landfill volumes, \$(0.2) million relates to lower transportation volumes associated with lower drill cutting volumes, and \$0.4 million relates to higher transfer station volumes).

#### Fuel surcharge and other fees.

The fuel surcharge and other fees change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$ (0.2) million from lower revenues generated from our Sustainability Recycling Adjustment fee ("SRA fee"), associated with higher commodity pricing.

The fuel surcharge and other fees change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$ (0.2) million from lower revenues generated from our SRA fee, associated with higher commodity pricing.

#### Commodity price and volume.

The commodity price and volume change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$0.3 million from favorable processing commodity pricing and higher processing volumes; and
- \$0.3 million from higher landfill gas-to-energy volumes; partially offset by
- \$(0.2) million from unfavorable energy pricing.

The commodity price and volume change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$0.9 million from favorable processing commodity pricing and higher processing volumes; and
- \$0.1 million from higher landfill gas-to-energy volumes; partially offset by
- \$(0.3) million from unfavorable energy pricing.

#### Acquisitions and divestitures.

The acquisitions and divestitures change component in quarterly and year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the acquisition of three transfer stations in the three months ended June 30, 2016, a collection operation in the quarter ended March 31, 2017, and another larger collection operation in the three months ended June 30, 2017.

#### *Organics revenues*

Quarterly and year-to-date organics revenues decreased \$(1.2) million and \$(0.9) million , respectively, as a result of lower commodity volumes.

#### *Customer Solutions revenues*

Quarterly and year-to-date customer solutions revenues increased \$1.2 million and \$2.0 million , respectively, as a result of higher volumes.

#### *Recycling revenues*

Quarterly recycling revenues increased as a result of the following:

- \$ 2.9 million from favorable commodity pricing in the marketplace; and
- \$ 1.1 million from higher commodity volumes; partially offset by
- \$ (0.6) million from lower tipping fees, as we reduced variable tipping fees at our facilities as commodity prices increased.

Year-to-date recycling revenues increased as a result of the following:

- \$ 10.1 million from favorable commodity pricing in the marketplace; and
- \$ 1.5 million from higher commodity volumes; partially offset by

- \$ (2.3) million from lower tipping fees, as we reduced variable tipping fees at our facilities as commodity prices increased.

### Operating Expenses

A summary of cost of operations, general and administration expense, and depreciation and amortization expense (dollars in millions and as a percentage of total revenues) is as follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,				\$ Change	Six Months Ended June 30,				\$ Change
	2017		2016			2017		2016		
Cost of operations	\$ 102.5	66.6%	\$ 95.2	65.8%	\$ 7.3	\$ 197.1	68.5%	\$ 185.6	68.7%	\$ 11.5
General and administration	\$ 18.8	12.2%	\$ 18.1	12.5%	\$ 0.7	\$ 37.6	13.1%	\$ 36.7	13.6%	\$ 0.9
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 15.9	10.3%	\$ 15.8	10.9%	\$ 0.1	\$ 29.7	10.3%	\$ 30.3	11.2%	\$ (0.6)

### Cost of Operations

Cost of operations includes labor costs, tipping fees paid to third-party disposal facilities, fuel costs, maintenance and repair costs of vehicles and equipment, workers' compensation and vehicle insurance costs, the cost of purchasing materials to be recycled, third-party transportation costs, district and state taxes, host community fees and royalties. Cost of operations also includes accretion expense related to final capping, closure and post-closure obligations, leachate treatment and disposal costs and depletion of landfill operating lease obligations.

The period-to-period changes in cost of operations can be primarily attributed to the following:

Third-party direct costs increased \$ 2.8 million quarterly and \$ 5.0 million year-to-date due to the following:

- higher hauling and transportation costs with higher collection volumes in the Eastern region;
- higher disposal costs associated with increased third-party disposal pricing in the Western region;
- higher disposal costs associated with higher transfer station volumes in the Western region;
- higher disposal costs associated with higher volumes in our Customer Solutions line-of-business;
- higher disposal costs associated with additional costs from the use of alternative disposal sites in our Organics line-of-business; and
- higher purchased material costs in our Recycling and Customer Solutions lines-of-business; partially offset by
- lower hauling and transportation costs associated with decreased transportation services provided in our Western region; and
- lower hauling and transportation costs associated with lower commodity volumes in our Organics line-of-business in the three months ended June 30, 2017.

Labor and related benefit costs increased \$ 1.8 million quarterly and \$ 2.9 million year-to-date due to the following:

- higher healthcare costs of \$1.2 million quarterly and \$1.6 million year-to-date associated with direct operational labor;
- higher labor costs associated with higher collection volumes in the Eastern region, as well as customer growth related to several new municipal contracts; and
- higher labor costs associated with higher volumes and increased quality requirements from commodity buyers in our Recycling line-of-business.

Direct operational costs increased \$1.9 million quarterly and \$2.1 million year-to-date due to the following:

- higher equipment rental costs in the Eastern region; and
- higher leachate disposal costs and other landfill operating costs at certain landfills in the Western region due to abnormally high rainfall.

Maintenance and repair costs increased \$ 0.8 million quarterly and \$ 1.1 million year-to-date due primarily to higher fleet maintenance costs in the Western region.

### General and Administration

General and administration expense includes management, clerical and administrative compensation, bad debt expense, as well as overhead costs, professional service fees and costs associated with marketing, sales force and community relations efforts.

The period-to-period changes in general and administration expense can be primarily attributed to the following:

Labor and related benefit costs increased \$ 0.6 million quarterly and \$ 1.0 million year-to-date primarily due to higher healthcare costs, which were up \$0.6 million quarterly, and higher equity compensation expense of \$0.8 million quarterly and \$1.3 million year-to-date associated with market-based performance stock option and market-based performance stock unit grants, the majority of which were not outstanding as of June 30, 2016. These costs were partially offset by lower accrued incentive compensation in the three and six months ended June 30, 2017.

Bad debt expense decreased \$ (0.4) million quarterly and \$ (0.7) million year-to-date due to improved credit processes and an easier comparison due to collectability issues associated with a disposal customer in prior year.

### Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense includes: (i) depreciation of property and equipment (including assets recorded for capital leases) on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets; (ii) amortization of landfill costs (including those costs incurred and all estimated future costs for landfill development and construction, along with asset retirement costs arising from closure and post-closure obligations) on a units-of-consumption method as landfill airspace is consumed over the total estimated remaining capacity of a site, which includes both permitted capacity and unpermitted expansion capacity that meets certain criteria for amortization purposes; (iii) amortization of landfill asset retirement costs arising from final capping obligations on a units-of-consumption method as airspace is consumed over the estimated capacity associated with each final capping event; and (iv) amortization of intangible assets with a definite life, using either an economic benefit provided approach or on a straight-line basis over the definitive terms of the related agreements.

A summary of the components of depreciation and amortization expense (dollars in millions and as a percentage of total revenues) follows:

	Three Months Ended June 30,				\$ Change	Six Months Ended June 30,				\$ Change
	2017		2016			2017		2016		
Depreciation	\$ 8.1	5.2%	\$ 8.4	5.8%	\$ (0.3)	\$ 16.1	5.6%	\$ 16.8	6.2%	\$ (0.7)
Landfill amortization	7.3	4.7%	6.9	4.8%	0.4	\$ 12.6	4.4%	\$ 12.5	4.6%	0.1
Other amortization	0.5	0.3%	0.5	0.3%	—	\$ 1.0	0.3%	\$ 1.0	0.4%	—
	<u>\$ 15.9</u>	<u>10.2%</u>	<u>\$ 15.8</u>	<u>10.9%</u>	<u>\$ 0.1</u>	<u>\$ 29.7</u>	<u>10.3%</u>	<u>\$ 30.3</u>	<u>11.2%</u>	<u>\$ (0.6)</u>

The period-to-period changes in depreciation and amortization expense can be primarily attributed to the timing of capital expenditures and related make-up of fixed assets, higher landfill volumes in the quarter, and the make-up and timing of definite life intangible assets.

### Southbridge Landfill Closure Charge

In June 2017, we initiated the plan to cease operations of the Southbridge landfill in our Eastern region. Accordingly, in the three months ended June 30, 2017, we recorded a charge associated with the closure of the Southbridge landfill discussed in Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q:

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Asset impairment charge (1)	\$ 48.0	\$ —	\$ 48.0	\$ —
Project development charge (2)	9.1	—	9.1	—
Environmental remediation charge (3)	6.4	—	6.4	—
Legal and transaction costs (4)	0.6	—	0.6	—
Southbridge landfill closure charge	<u>\$ 64.1</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 64.1</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

- (1) We performed a test of recoverability under Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 360, which indicated that the carrying value of our asset group that includes the Southbridge landfill was no longer recoverable and, as a result, the asset group was assessed for impairment with an impairment charge allocated to the long-lived assets of Southbridge landfill in accordance with FASB ASC 360. See Note 12, *Fair Value of Financial Instruments* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for additional disclosure.
- (2) We wrote-off deferred costs associated with landfill permitting activities no longer deemed viable.
- (3) We recorded an environmental remediation charge associated with the future installation of a municipal waterline. See Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for additional disclosure.
- (4) We incurred legal and other transaction costs associated with various matters as part of the Southbridge landfill closure. See Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for additional disclosure.

### **Other Expenses**

#### *Interest Expense, net*

Our interest expense, net decreased \$ (3.7) million quarterly and \$ (7.2) million year-to-date due to lower average debt balances and changes to our capitalization structure. Specifically, since December 31, 2015 we completed the following transactions:

- we completed the issuance of \$15.0 million of New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014R-2 ("New York Bonds 2016") in June 2016;
- we completed the refinancing of our senior secured asset-based revolving credit and letter of credit facility ("ABL Facility") with our credit facility, which consists of a \$350.0 million term loan B facility ("Term Loan B Facility") and a \$160.0 million revolving line of credit facility ("Revolving Credit Facility") and, together with the Term Loan B Facility, the "Credit Facility") and repaid in full our ABL Facility in October 2016;
- we repurchased or redeemed, as applicable, \$366.1 million of our most expensive debt, the 7.75% senior subordinated notes due February 2019 ("2019 Notes"), between June 2016 and October 2016;
- we remarketed \$3.6 million aggregate principal amount of Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-1 ("FAME Bonds 2005R-1") and \$21.4 million aggregate principal amount of Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-2 ("FAME Bonds 2005R-2") into one series of \$25.0 million aggregate principal amount of Finance Authority of Maine Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2005R-3 ("FAME Bonds 2005R-3") in February 2017; and
- we entered into the first amendment ("Repricing Amendment") to our Term Loan B Facility and Revolving Credit Facility, which decreased the applicable interest margin for our Term Loan B Facility by 25 basis points for both LIBOR borrowings and base rate borrowings in April 2017.

#### *Loss on Debt Extinguishment*

We recorded a loss on debt extinguishment of less than \$0.1 million and \$0.5 million in the three and six months ended June 30, 2017, respectively, as compared to a loss on debt extinguishment of \$0.6 million and \$0.5 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively, associated with the following transactions:

- the write-off of debt issuance costs in connection with the amendment and repricing of our Term Loan B Facility in the three months ended June 30, 2017;
- the write-off of debt issuance costs in connection with the remarketing of the FAME Bonds 2005R-1 and the FAME Bonds 2005R-2 into FAME Bonds 2005R-3 in the quarter ended March 31, 2017; and
- the write-off of debt issuance costs and unamortized original issue discount in proportion with the settlement amount, and the premium related to the redemption or repurchase price associated with the early retirement of \$19.7 of the 2019 Notes in the three and six months ended June 30, 2016.
- the write-off of debt issuance costs and unamortized original issue discount in proportion with the settlement amount, and the premium related to the redemption or repurchase price associated with the early retirement of \$19,730 of our 7.75% senior subordinated notes due February 2019 in the three and six months ended June 30, 2016.

## Provision for Income Taxes

Income taxes increased \$ 0.2 million quarterly and \$0.3 million year-to-date from a provision for income taxes of \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million in the three and six months ended June 30, 2016, respectively. The provision for income taxes in the six months ended June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016 both include \$0.3 million of deferred tax provision due mainly to an increase in the deferred tax liability for indefinite lived assets, offset in the six months ended June 30, 2017 in part by additional minimum tax credit carryforward with no expiration and requiring no valuation allowance. Since we cannot determine when the deferred tax liability related to indefinite lived assets will reverse, that portion of the deferred tax provisions cannot be used as a future source of taxable income against which to benefit deferred tax assets.

## Segment Reporting

### Revenues

A summary of revenues by operating segment (in millions) follows:

Segment	Three Months Ended June 30,			Six Months Ended June 30,		
	2017	2016	\$ Change	2017	2016	\$ Change
Eastern	\$ 46.6	\$ 45.4	\$ 1.2	\$ 85.3	\$ 84.4	\$ 0.9
Western	64.4	59.5	4.9	118.5	111.9	6.6
Recycling	16.2	12.8	3.4	32.8	23.5	9.3
Other	26.8	27.0	(0.2)	51.2	50.3	0.9
Total revenues	\$ 154.0	\$ 144.7	\$ 9.3	\$ 287.8	\$ 270.1	\$ 17.7

### Eastern Region

A summary of the period-to-period change in solid waste revenues (dollars in millions) follows:

	Period-to-Period Change for the Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 vs. 2016		Period-to-Period Change for the Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 vs. 2016	
	Amount	% of Growth	Amount	% of Growth
Price	\$ 1.2	2.7 %	\$ 2.2	2.7 %
Volume	(0.1)	(0.3)%	(1.0)	(1.3)%
Fuel surcharge and other fees	(0.1)	(0.3)%	(0.2)	(0.3)%
Commodity price and volume	(0.1)	(0.3)%	(0.4)	(0.5)%
Acquisitions and divestitures	0.3	0.8 %	0.3	0.4 %
Solid waste revenues	\$ 1.2	2.6 %	\$ 0.9	1.0 %

### Price.

The price change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$0.8 million from favorable collection pricing; and
- \$0.5 million from favorable disposal pricing related to transfer stations and landfills.

The price change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$1.4 million from favorable collection pricing; and
- \$0.8 million from favorable disposal pricing related to transfer stations and landfills.

### Volume.

The volume change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$(1.0) million from lower disposal volumes (of which \$(1.2) million relates to lower landfill volumes and \$0.2 million relates to higher transfer station volumes); partially offset by
- \$0.8 million from higher collection volumes.

The volume change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$(2.2) million from lower disposal volumes (of which \$(2.1) million relates to lower landfill volumes and \$(0.1) million relates to lower transfer station volumes); partially offset by
- \$1.1 million from higher collection volumes.

Acquisitions and divestitures.

The acquisitions and divestitures change component in quarterly and year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the acquisition of a solid waste collection business in the three months ended June 30, 2017.

### **Western Region**

A summary of the period-to-period changes in solid waste revenues (dollars in millions) follows:

	Period-to-Period Change for the Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 vs. 2016		Period-to-Period Change for the Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 vs. 2016	
	Amount	% of Growth	Amount	% of Growth
Price	\$ 1.6	2.6%	\$ 2.8	2.5%
Volume	2.5	4.4%	2.2	2.0%
Commodity price and volume	0.6	1.0%	1.1	0.9%
Acquisitions & divestitures	0.2	0.3%	0.5	0.5%
Solid waste revenues	\$ 4.9	8.3%	\$ 6.6	5.9%

Price.

The price change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$1.0 million from favorable collection pricing; and
- \$0.6 million from favorable disposal pricing related to landfills and transfer stations.

The price change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$1.8 million from favorable collection pricing; and
- \$1.0 million from favorable disposal pricing related to transfer stations and landfills.

Volume.

The volume change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$2.9 million from higher disposal volumes (of which \$2.3 million relates to higher landfill volumes, \$0.3 million relates to higher transportation volumes and \$0.3 million relates to higher transfer station volumes); partially offset by
- \$(0.4) million from lower collection volumes.

The volume change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$2.2 million from higher disposal volumes (of which \$1.7 million relates to higher landfill volumes and \$0.5 million relates to higher transfer station volumes); and
- \$0.1 million from higher processing volumes; partially offset by
- \$(0.1) million from lower collection volumes.

Commodity price and volume.

The commodity price and volume change component in quarterly solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$0.6 million from favorable commodity pricing and higher volumes within our landfill gas-to-energy and processing operations, partially offset by lower energy pricing.

The commodity price and volume change component in year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the following:

- \$1.1 million from favorable commodity pricing and higher volumes within our landfill gas-to-energy and processing operations, partially offset by lower energy pricing.

Acquisitions and divestitures.

The acquisitions and divestitures change component in quarterly and year-to-date solid waste revenues growth is the result of the acquisition of three transfer stations in the three months ended June 30, 2016 and a collection operation in the quarter ended March 31, 2017.

### **Operating (Loss) Income**

A summary of operating (loss) income by operating segment (in millions) follows:

Segment	Three Months Ended June 30,			Six Months Ended June 30,		
	2017	2016	\$ Change	2017	2016	\$ Change
Eastern	\$ (60.3)	\$ 3.1	\$ (63.4)	\$ (60.3)	\$ 2.3	\$ (62.6)
Western	10.8	10.2	0.6	14.9	13.2	1.7
Recycling	1.1	0.4	0.7	2.6	(0.6)	3.2
Other	1.1	1.9	(0.8)	2.1	2.7	(0.6)
Total operating (loss) income	\$ (47.3)	\$ 15.6	\$ (62.9)	\$ (40.7)	\$ 17.6	\$ (58.3)

### **Eastern Region**

Operating results decreased \$(63.4) million quarterly and \$(62.6) million year-to-date. After taking into consideration the Southbridge landfill closure charge, our operating performance in the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 improved due to the revenue growth outlined above and the following cost changes:

*Cost of operations* : Cost of operations increased \$2.6 million quarterly and \$2.3 million year-to-date due to the following:

- higher hauling and transportation costs associated with higher collection volumes; and
- higher direct labor costs associated with higher collection volumes, as well as customer growth related to several new municipal contracts, and higher healthcare costs of \$0.5 million quarterly and \$0.7 million year-to-date; partially offset by
- lower direct operational costs year-to-date, noting a \$0.1 million increase in direct operational costs in the quarter, associated with lower host and royalty fees, lower landfill operating lease amortization on lower volumes, and lower gas control and other landfill operating costs; and
- lower facility maintenance costs.

*General and administration* : General and administration expense increased \$0.4 million quarterly and \$0.4 million year-to-date due to higher shared overhead costs associated with an increase in healthcare costs and higher equity compensation expense, partially offset by lower bad debt expense.

*Depreciation and amortization* : Depreciation and amortization expense decreased \$(0.7) million quarterly and \$(1.4) million year-to-date due to lower landfill amortization expense (associated with lower landfill volumes, primarily at our Southbridge landfill, and lower amortization rates at our NCES and Juniper Ridge landfills).

*Southbridge Landfill Closure Charge* : In June 2017, we initiated the plan to cease operations of the Southbridge landfill. Accordingly, in the three months ended June 30, 2017, we recorded a \$64.1 million charge associated with the closure of our

Southbridge landfill discussed in Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q .

### ***Western Region***

Operating income increased \$0.6 million quarterly and \$1.7 million year-to-date as our operating performance in the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 improved due to the revenue growth outlined above and the following cost changes:

*Cost of operations* : Cost of operations increased \$3.9 million quarterly and 5.3 million year-to-date due to the following:

- higher disposal costs associated with increased third-party disposal pricing;
- higher disposal costs associated with higher transfer station volumes;
- higher direct labor costs associated with increased labor and healthcare costs of \$0.5 million quarterly and \$0.7 million year-to-date;
- higher direct operational costs associated with increased leachate disposal and landfill operating costs due to abnormally high rainfall; and
- higher fleet maintenance costs; partially offset by
- lower hauling and transportation costs associated with decreased transportation services provided.

*General and administration* : General and administration expense increased \$0.4 million quarterly and \$0.5 million year-to-date as higher shared overhead costs associated with an increase in healthcare costs and higher equity compensation expense were partially offset by lower wages and personnel costs.

*Depreciation and amortization* : Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$0.7 million quarterly and \$0.8 million year-to-date due to higher landfill amortization expense (associated with the landfill volume mix and changes to landfill amortization rates as a result of changes in cost estimates and other assumptions with our landfills) more than offsetting lower depreciation expense attributed to the timing of capital expenditures and related make-up of fixed assets.

### ***Recycling***

Operating income increased \$0.7 million quarterly and \$3.2 million year-to-date as our operating performance in the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 improved due to the revenue growth outlined above and the following cost changes:

*Cost of operations* : Cost of operations increased \$2.1 million quarterly and \$4.4 million year-to-date due to the following:

- higher third-party purchased material costs due to higher commodity prices;
- higher maintenance costs; and
- higher labor and related benefit costs associated with higher healthcare costs, higher quality standards and higher volumes.

*General and administration* : General and administration expense increased \$0.2 million quarterly and \$0.5 million year-to-date due primarily to higher labor costs, including incentive compensation, and higher shared overhead costs associated with an increase in healthcare costs and higher equity compensation expense.

### ***Other***

Operating income decreased \$(0.8) million quarterly and \$(0.6) million year-to-date based on the lower operating performance of our Organics line-of-business in the three months ended June 30, 2017, as lower operating costs did not offset the decline in commodity volumes . The impact was partially offset by the improved operating performance of our Customer Solutions line-of-business, as increased volumes outweighed higher cost of operations associated with increased disposal, purchased material, hauling and transportation, and healthcare costs.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

We continually monitor our actual and forecasted cash flows, our liquidity, and our capital requirements in order to properly manage our cash needs based on the capital intensive nature of our business. Our capital requirements include fixed asset purchases (including capital expenditures for vehicles), debt servicing, landfill development and cell construction, landfill site and cell closure, as well as acquisitions. We generally meet our liquidity needs from operating cash flows and borrowings from our Revolving Credit Facility.

As part of our decision to cease operations at the Southbridge landfill as discussed in Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, we assessed the estimated costs and timing of cash flows associated with remaining capital expenditures, environmental remediation, and final capping, closure and post-closure activities at the Southbridge landfill. We expect cash outflows in the next five years associated with these activities to be approximately \$21.0 million and we do not believe that this will negatively impact our liquidity during this time. In addition, we estimate that over \$50.0 million in additional tax deductions related to ceasing operations will be recognized in the next five years. Furthermore, we do not believe that ceasing operations at the Southbridge landfill will impact our future operational activities in a manner that will have a material impact to our results of operations, our cash flows and our financial condition. For additional information, see Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

A summary of cash and cash equivalents, restricted assets and long-term debt balances, excluding any unamortized debt discount and debt issuance costs, (in millions) follows:

	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2.7	\$ 2.5
Restricted assets:		
Restricted investments - landfill closure	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.0
Long-term debt:		
Current portion	\$ 5.0	\$ 4.7
Long-term portion	514.2	520.9
Total long-term debt	\$ 519.2	\$ 525.6

### Summary of Cash Flow Activity

A summary of cash flows (in millions) follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30,		\$
	2017	2016	Change
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 40.0	\$ 35.6	\$ 4.4
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (30.0)	\$ (28.3)	\$ (1.7)
Net cash used in financing activities	\$ (9.8)	\$ (7.2)	\$ (2.6)

*Net cash provided by operating activities.*

A summary of operating cash flows (in millions) follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016
Net loss	\$ (53.9)	\$ (2.4)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	29.7	30.3
Depletion of landfill operating lease obligations	4.2	4.4
Interest accretion on landfill and environmental remediation liabilities	1.9	1.8
Amortization of debt issuance costs and discount on long-term debt	1.3	2.1
Stock-based compensation	2.9	1.6
Gain on sale of property and equipment	(0.1)	(0.5)
Southbridge landfill non-cash closure charge	63.5	—
Loss on debt extinguishment	0.5	0.5
Deferred income taxes	0.3	0.3
	50.3	38.1
Changes in assets and liabilities, net	(10.3)	(2.5)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 40.0	\$ 35.6

A summary of the most significant items affecting the change in our operating cash flows follows:

Improved operational performance in the six months ended June 30, 2017 as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016 due to the following:

- higher revenues of \$17.7 million driven by our Recycling line-of-business, our collection line-of-business, our Western region disposal line-of-business and our Customer Solutions line-of-business; partially offset by
- higher cost of operations of \$11.5 million driven by higher third-party direct costs, higher labor and related benefit costs, including significant healthcare cost increases, and direct operational costs; and
- higher general and administration expenses of \$0.9 million driven by higher labor and related benefit costs, including significant healthcare cost increases.

The declined cash flow impact associated with the changes in our assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and divestitures, which are affected by both cost changes and the timing of payments, in the six months ended June 30, 2017, as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016 was the result of the following:

- lower cash inflows associated with accounts receivable;
- higher cash outflows associated with accrued payroll and incentive compensation; and
- higher cash outflows associated with accounts payable; partially offset by
- lower cash outflows associated with cash interest payments running through accrued expenses and other liabilities; and
- lower cash outflows associated with prepaid expenses, inventories and other assets.

*Net cash used in investing activities .*

A summary of investing cash flows (in millions) follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	\$ (2.7)	\$ (2.4)
Acquisition related additions to property, plant and equipment	(0.2)	—
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(24.4)	(23.5)
Payments on landfill operating lease contracts	(3.2)	(3.3)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	0.5	0.9
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>\$ (30.0)</u>	<u>\$ (28.3)</u>

A summary of the most significant items affecting the change in our investing cash flows follows:

*Acquisitions, net of cash acquired* . We acquired two solid waste collection lines-of-business in the six months ended June 30, 2017 for total consideration of \$5.4 million, including \$2.7 million in cash, as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016 , when we acquired three transfer stations in our Western region for total consideration of \$2.8 million, including \$2.4 million in cash.

*Capital expenditures* . Capital expenditures were \$1.1 million higher in the six months ended June 30, 2017 as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016 , primarily due to timing differences, which resulted in increased spend on various capital investments including landfill development projects, and business growth.

*Proceeds from the sale of property and equipment* . Proceeds from the sale of property and equipment decreased \$(0.4) million in the six months ended June 30, 2017 due to the timing and make-up of various asset sales.

*Net cash used in financing activities* .

A summary of financing cash flows (in millions) follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2017	2016
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	\$ 117.0	\$ 126.0
Principal payments on long-term debt	(126.2)	(132.7)
Payments of debt issuance costs	(1.5)	(0.7)
Payments of debt extinguishment costs	—	(0.3)
Proceeds from the exercise of share based awards	0.9	—
Change in restricted cash	—	0.5
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>\$ (9.8)</u>	<u>\$ (7.2)</u>

A summary of the most significant items affecting the change in our financing cash flows follows:

*Debt activity* . We had a decrease in both debt borrowings of \$(9.0) million and debt payments of \$(6.5) million in the six months ended June 30, 2017 associated primarily with the following:

- entering into the Repricing Amendment to our Term Loan B Facility and Revolving Credit Facility and, which decreased the applicable interest margin for our Term Loan B Facility by 25 basis points for both LIBOR borrowings and base rate borrowings;
- the remarketing of the FAME Bonds 2005R-1 and the FAME Bonds 2005R-2 into the FAME Bonds 2005R-3 in the quarter ended March 31, 2017; and
- the repurchase or redemption, as applicable, and retirement of \$19.7 million aggregate principal amount of 2019 Notes in the six months ended June 30, 2016 in order to maximize interest savings by paying down our most expensive debt.

*Payments of debt issuance costs* . We made \$1.5 million of debt issuance cost payments in the six months ended June 30, 2017 related to the Repricing Amendment and the remarketing of the FAME Bonds 2005R-1 and the FAME Bonds 2005R-2 into the FAME Bonds 2005R-3, as compared to \$0.7 million in the six months ended June 30, 2016 related primarily to the issuance of the New York Bonds 2016.

*Proceeds from the exercise of share based awards*. We received \$0.9 million of cash receipts associated with the exercise of stock options in the six months ended June 30, 2017 due to the appreciation of our stock price.

*Change in restricted cash* . In the three months ended June 30, 2016, we obtained \$3.0 million of restricted cash from the issuance of \$15.0 million aggregate principal amount of New York Bonds 2016 and subsequently used \$2.2 million of these funds to pay down ABL Facility borrowings for costs incurred to fund certain capital projects in the state of New York. We also used the remaining \$1.3 million of restricted cash associated with the issuance of FAME Bonds 2015 in the six months ended June 30, 2016 to pay down ABL Facility borrowings for costs incurred to fund certain capital projects in the state of Maine.

### **Outstanding Long-Term Debt**

#### *Credit Facility*

In the three months ended June 30, 2017, we entered into the Repricing Amendment to our Credit Facility agreement. The Repricing Amendment decreased the applicable interest margin for our Term Loan B Facility by 25 basis points for both LIBOR borrowings and base rate borrowings. The applicable interest margin will continue to be determined based on our consolidated net leverage ratio. The applicable interest rate will be reduced to 2.50% for LIBOR borrowings (with a 1.00% LIBOR floor), and 1.50% for base rate borrowings upon us reaching a consolidated net leverage ratio of 3.75x or less.

As of June 30, 2017, we had outstanding \$348.3 million aggregate principal amount of borrowings under our Term Loan B Facility and \$55.6 million aggregate principal amount of borrowings under our Revolving Credit Facility. The Term Loan B Facility has a 7-year term and bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 2.75% per annum (with a 1.00% LIBOR floor) as of June 30, 2017. The Revolving Credit Facility has a 5-year term and bears interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 2.75% per annum as of June 30, 2017, which can be adjusted from an applicable rate of LIBOR plus 2.50% to 3.25% depending on our consolidated net leverage ratio. We are also required to make scheduled quarterly payments of \$0.9 million on the Term Loan B Facility in March, June, September and December of each year until maturity in October 2023. Our Credit Facility is guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries and secured by substantially all of our assets. As of June 30, 2017, further advances were available under the Revolving Credit Facility in the amount of \$81.5 million. This available amount is net of outstanding irrevocable letters of credit totaling \$22.9 million as of June 30, 2017, at which date no amount had been drawn. We have the right to request, at our discretion, an increase in the amount of loans under the Credit Facility by an aggregate amount of \$100.0 million, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Credit Facility agreement.

The Credit Facility agreement requires us to maintain a minimum interest coverage ratio and a maximum consolidated net leverage ratio, to be measured at the end of each fiscal quarter. As of June 30, 2017, we were in compliance with all financial covenants contained in the Credit Facility agreement as follows (in millions):

	<b>Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2017</b>	<b>Covenant Requirement at June 30, 2017</b>
Maximum consolidated net leverage ratio (1)	3.92	5.375
Minimum interest coverage ratio	4.95	2.50

- (1) The maximum consolidated net leverage ratio is calculated as consolidated funded debt, net of unencumbered cash and cash equivalents in excess of \$2.0 million (calculated at \$518.5 million as of June 30, 2017, or \$519.2 million of consolidated funded debt less \$0.7 million of cash and cash equivalents in excess of \$2.0 million as of June 30, 2017), divided by minimum consolidated EBITDA. Minimum consolidated EBITDA is based on operating results for the twelve months preceding the measurement date of June 30, 2017. Consolidated funded debt, net unencumbered cash and cash equivalents in excess of \$2.0 million, and minimum consolidated EBITDA are non-GAAP financial measures that should not be considered an alternative to any measure of financial performance calculated and presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. A reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to minimum consolidated EBITDA is as follows (in millions):

	Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2017	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	84.9
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and divestitures		17.0
Gain on sale of property and equipment		0.2
Environmental remediation charge		(0.9)
Loss on debt extinguishment		(13.7)
Stock based compensation		(4.7)
Southbridge landfill non-cash charge		(63.5)
Interest expense, less amortization of debt issuance costs and discount on long-term debt		28.6
Provision for income taxes, net of deferred taxes		0.3
Adjustments as allowed by the Credit Facility agreement		84.0
Minimum consolidated EBITDA	\$	132.2

In addition to the financial covenants described above, the Credit Facility agreement also contains a number of important customary affirmative and negative covenants which restrict, among other things, our ability to sell assets, incur additional debt, create liens, make investments, and pay dividends. We do not believe that these restrictions impact our ability to meet future liquidity needs.

As of June 30, 2017, we were in compliance with the covenants contained in the Credit Facility agreement. An event of default under any of our debt agreements could permit some of our lenders, including the lenders under the Credit Facility, to declare all amounts borrowed from them to be immediately due and payable, together with accrued and unpaid interest, or, in the case of the Credit Facility, terminate the commitment to make further credit extensions thereunder, which could, in turn, trigger cross-defaults under other debt obligations. If we were unable to repay debt to our lenders, or were otherwise in default under any provision governing our outstanding debt obligations, our secured lenders could proceed against us and against the collateral securing that debt.

Based on the seasonality of our business, operating results in the late fall, winter and early spring months are generally lower than the remainder of our fiscal year. Given the cash flow impact that this seasonality, the capital intensive nature of our business and the timing of debt payments has on our business, we typically incur higher debt borrowings in order to meet our liquidity needs during these times. Consequently, our availability and performance against our financial covenants tighten during these times as well.

#### *Tax-Exempt Financings*

*New York Bonds.* As of June 30, 2017, we had outstanding \$40.0 million aggregate principal amount of Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2014 ("New York Bonds 2014") and New York Bonds 2016 issued by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation under the indenture dated December 1, 2014 (collectively, the "New York Bonds"). The New York Bonds 2014 accrue interest at 3.75% per annum through December 1, 2019, at which time they may be converted from a fixed rate to a variable rate. The New York Bonds 2016 accrue interest at 3.125% per annum through May 31, 2026, at which time they may be converted from a fixed rate to a variable rate. The New York Bonds, which are unsecured and guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries, require interest payments on June 1 and December 1 of each year and mature on December 1, 2044. We borrowed the proceeds of the New York Bonds to finance or refinance certain capital projects in the state of New York and to pay certain costs of issuance of the New York Bonds.

*Maine Bonds.* In the quarter ended March 31, 2017, we completed the remarketing of \$3.6 million aggregate principal amount of FAME Bonds 2005R-1 and \$21.4 million aggregate principal amount of FAME Bonds 2005R-2 into one series of \$25.0 million aggregate principal amount of FAME Bonds 2005R-3. As of June 30, 2017, we had outstanding \$25.0 million aggregate principal amount of FAME Bonds 2005R-3. The FAME Bonds 2005R-3, which are unsecured and guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries, accrue interest at 5.25% per annum, and interest is payable semiannually in arrears on February 1 and August 1 of each year until such bonds mature on January 1, 2025.

As of June 30, 2017, we had outstanding \$15.0 million aggregate principal amount of FAME Bonds 2015. The FAME Bonds 2015, which are unsecured and guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries, accrue interest at 5.125% per annum through August 1, 2025, at which time they may be converted from a fixed to a variable rate, and interest is payable semiannually in arrears on February 1 and August 1 of each year. An additional \$15.0 million aggregate principal amount of FAME Bonds 2015 may be offered under the same indenture in the future. The FAME Bonds 2015 mature on August 1, 2035. We borrowed the proceeds of the offering of the FAME Bonds 2015 to finance or refinance the costs of certain of our solid waste landfill facilities and solid waste collection, organics and transfer, recycling and hauling facilities, and to pay certain costs of the issuance of the FAME Bonds 2015.

*Vermont Bonds.* As of June 30, 2017, we had outstanding \$16.0 million aggregate principal amount Vermont Economic Development Authority Solid Waste Disposal Long-Term Revenue Bonds Series 2013 (“Vermont Bonds”). The Vermont Bonds, which are unsecured and guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries, accrue interest at 4.75% per annum through April 1, 2018, at which time they may be converted from a fixed rate to a variable rate, and interest is payable semiannually in arrears on April 1 and October 1 of each year. The Vermont Bonds mature on April 1, 2036. We borrowed the proceeds of the Vermont Bonds to repay borrowings under our Senior Credit Facility for qualifying property, plant and equipment assets purchased in the state of Vermont.

*New Hampshire Bonds.* As of June 30, 2017, we had outstanding \$11.0 million aggregate principal amount of Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2013 issued by the Business Finance Authority of the State of New Hampshire (“New Hampshire Bonds”). The New Hampshire Bonds, which are unsecured and guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by all of our significant wholly-owned subsidiaries, accrue interest at 4.00% per annum through October 1, 2019, at which time they may be converted from a fixed rate to a variable rate, and interest is payable in arrears on April 1 and October 1 of each year. The New Hampshire Bonds mature on April 1, 2029. We borrowed the proceeds of the New Hampshire Bonds to repay borrowings under our Senior Credit Facility for qualifying property, plant and equipment assets purchased in the state of New Hampshire.

### **Shelf Registration**

We have filed a universal shelf registration statement with the SEC pursuant to which we may from time to time issue securities in an amount of up to \$190.0 million, after giving consideration to the \$60.0 million aggregate principal amount of additional 2019 Notes we issued in February 2015 pursuant to the registration statement.

### **Inflation**

Although inflationary increases in costs have affected our historical operating margins, we believe that inflation generally has not had a significant impact on our operating results. Consistent with industry practice, most of our contracts provide for a pass-through of certain costs to our customers, including increases in landfill tipping fees and in some cases fuel costs, intended to mitigate the impact of inflation on our operating results. We have also implemented a number of operating efficiency programs that seek to improve productivity and reduce our service costs, and a fuel surcharge, which is designed to recover escalating fuel price fluctuations above an annually reset floor. Based on these implementations, we believe we should be able to sufficiently offset most cost increases resulting from inflation. However, competitive factors may require us to absorb at least a portion of these cost increases. Additionally, management’s estimates associated with inflation have had, and will continue to have, an impact on our accounting for landfill and environmental remediation liabilities.

### **Regional Economic Conditions**

Our business is primarily located in the northeastern United States. Therefore, our business, financial condition and results of operations are susceptible to downturns in the general economy in this geographic region and other factors affecting the region, such as state regulations and severe weather conditions. We are unable to forecast or determine the timing and/or the future impact of a sustained economic slowdown.

## Seasonality and Severe Weather

Our transfer and disposal revenues historically have been higher in the late spring, summer and early fall months. This seasonality reflects lower volumes of waste in the late fall, winter and early spring months because:

- the volume of waste relating to C&D activities decreases substantially during the winter months in the northeastern United States; and
- decreased tourism in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and eastern New York during the winter months tends to lower the volume of waste generated by commercial and restaurant customers, which is partially offset by increased volume from the ski industry.

Because certain of our operating and fixed costs remain constant throughout the fiscal year, operating income is impacted by a similar seasonality. Our operations can also be adversely affected by periods of inclement or severe weather, which could increase our operating costs associated with the collection and disposal of waste, delay the collection and disposal of waste, reduce the volume of waste delivered to our disposal sites, increase the volume of waste collected under our existing contracts (without corresponding compensation), decrease the throughput and operating efficiency of our materials recycling facilities, or delay construction or expansion of our landfill sites and other facilities. Our operations can also be favorably affected by severe weather, which could increase the volume of waste in situations where we are able to charge for our additional services provided.

Our Recycling segment experiences increased volumes of fiber in November and December due to increased newspaper advertising and retail activity during the holiday season.

## Limitations on Ownership of Notes

Pursuant to the provisions of the Credit Facility agreement and the FAME Bonds 2015, FAME Bonds 2005R-3, New Hampshire Bonds, New York Bonds and Vermont Bonds, no lender under the Credit Facility or beneficial holder of the FAME Bonds 2015, FAME Bonds 2005R-3, New Hampshire Bonds, New York Bonds and/or Vermont Bonds is permitted to knowingly lend under the Credit Facility agreement or acquire FAME Bonds 2015, FAME Bonds 2005R-3, New Hampshire Bonds, New York Bonds and/or Vermont Bonds if such lender or person would hold 10% or more of the consolidated debt for which relevant subsidiaries of ours are obligated (and must dispose of the loans under the Credit Facility agreement, FAME Bonds 2015, FAME Bonds 2005R-3, New Hampshire Bonds, New York Bonds and/or Vermont Bonds or other debt of ours to the extent such lender or person becomes aware of exceeding such threshold), if such ownership would require consent of any regulatory authority under applicable law or regulation governing solid waste operators and such consent has not been obtained. We will furnish to the lenders under the Credit Facility agreement or beneficial holders of the FAME Bonds 2015, FAME Bonds 2005R-3, New Hampshire Bonds, New York Bonds and Vermont Bonds, in each quarterly and annual report, the dollar amount of our debt that would serve as the threshold for evaluating a beneficial holder's compliance with these ownership restrictions. As of June 30, 2017, that dollar amount was \$51.1 million.

## Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of our financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, as applicable, at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. On an on-going basis, management evaluates its estimates and judgments which are based on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The results of their evaluation form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions and circumstances. Our significant accounting policies are more fully discussed in Item 8 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

## New Accounting Pronouncements

For a description of the new accounting standards that may affect us, see Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

In the normal course of business we are exposed to market risks, including changes in interest rates and certain commodity prices. We have a variety of strategies to mitigate these market risks, including at times using derivative instruments to hedge some portion of these risks.

#### Interest Rate Volatility

In the quarter ended March 31, 2017, we entered into three interest rate derivative agreements to hedge interest rate risk associated with the variable rate portion of our long-term debt. The total notional amount of these agreements is \$60.0 million and requires us to receive interest based on changes in the 1-month LIBOR index with a 1.0% floor and pay interest at a weighted average rate of approximately 1.95%. Two of the agreements, with a total notional amount of \$35.0 million, mature in February 2021, and the final agreement, with a total notional amount of \$25.0 million, matures in February 2022.

We designated the three interest rate derivative agreements as effective cash flow hedges upon inception, and therefore the change in fair value is recorded in our stockholders' deficit as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss and included in interest expense at the same time as interest expense is affected by the hedged transactions. Differences paid or received over the life of the agreements are recorded as additions to or reductions of interest expense on the underlying debt.

We had interest rate risk relating to approximately \$343.9 million of long-term debt at June 30, 2017. The weighted average interest rate on the variable rate portion of long-term debt was approximately 4.0% at June 30, 2017. Should the average interest rate on the variable rate portion of long-term debt change by 100 basis points, we estimate that our quarterly interest expense would change by up to approximately \$0.9 million. The remainder of our long-term debt is at fixed rates and not subject to interest rate risk.

#### Commodity Price Volatility

Information about commodity price volatility market risk as of June 30, 2017 does not differ materially from that discussed in Item 7A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

### ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

*Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* Our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of June 30, 2017. The term "disclosure controls and procedures," as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act"), means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the company's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their objectives and management necessarily applies its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Based on the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of June 30, 2017, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that, as of such date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level.

*Changes in internal controls over financial reporting.* No change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) occurred during the three months ended June 30, 2017 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II.

### ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

#### Legal Proceedings

In the ordinary course of our business and as a result of the extensive governmental regulation of the solid waste industry, we are subject to various judicial and administrative proceedings involving state and local agencies. In these proceedings, an agency may seek to impose fines or to revoke or deny renewal of an operating permit held by us. From time to time, we may also be subject to actions brought by special interest or other groups, adjacent landowners or residents in connection with the permitting and licensing of landfills and transfer stations, or allegations of environmental damage or violations of the permits and licenses pursuant to which we operate. In addition, we may be named defendants in various claims and suits pending for alleged damages to persons and property, alleged violations of certain laws and alleged liabilities arising out of matters occurring during the ordinary operation of a waste management business.

#### Environmental Remediation Liability

We are subject to liability for environmental damage, including personal injury and property damage, that our solid waste, recycling and power generation facilities may cause to neighboring property owners, particularly as a result of the contamination of drinking water sources or soil, possibly including damage resulting from conditions that existed before we acquired the facilities. We may also be subject to liability for similar claims arising from off-site environmental contamination caused by pollutants or hazardous substances if we or our predecessors arrange or arranged to transport, treat or dispose of those materials. The following matters represent our material outstanding claims.

##### *Southbridge Recycling & Disposal Park, Inc.*

In October 2015, our Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park, Inc. ("SRD") subsidiary reported to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MADEP") results of analysis of samples collected pursuant to our existing permit from private drinking water wells located near the Town of Southbridge, Massachusetts ("Town") Landfill ("Southbridge Landfill"), which is operated by SRD. Those results indicated the presence of contaminants above the levels triggering notice and response obligations under MADEP regulations. In response to those results, we are carrying out an Immediate Response Action pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 21E (the "Charlton 21E Obligations"). Further, we have implemented a plan to analyze and better understand the groundwater near the Southbridge Landfill and we are investigating with the objective of identifying the source or sources of the elevated levels of contamination measured in the well samples. If it is determined that some or all of the contamination originated at the Southbridge Landfill, we will work with the Town, the Southbridge Landfill owner and the former operator of an unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill, which was used prior to our operation of a double-lined portion of the Southbridge Landfill commencing in 2004, to evaluate and allocate the liabilities related to the Charlton 21E Obligations. In July 2016, we sent correspondence to the Town pursuant to Chapter 21E of Massachusetts General Laws ("Chapter 21E") demanding that the Town reimburse us for the environmental response costs we had spent and that the Town be responsible for all such costs in the future, as well as any other costs or liabilities resulting from the release of contaminants from the unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill. The Town responded in September 2016, denying that the Southbridge Landfill is the source of such contamination, and claiming that if it is, that we may owe an indemnity to the Town pursuant to the Operating Agreement between us and the Town dated May 29, 2007, as amended. As of June 30, 2017, we have incurred total costs of approximately \$3.7 million. We entered into a Tolling Agreement with the Town to delay any further administrative or legal actions until our work with MADEP more specifically defines the parties' responsibilities for the Charlton 21E Obligations, if any. Please see below for further discussion of our relationship with the Town regarding the Charlton 21E Obligations. See also Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for information regarding the Southbridge landfill closure charge.

In February 2016, we and the Town received a Notice of Intent to Sue under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") from a law firm purporting to represent residents proximate to the Southbridge Landfill ("Residents"), indicating its intent to file suit against us on behalf of the Residents alleging the groundwater contamination originated from the Southbridge Landfill. In February 2017, we received an additional Notice of Intent to Sue from the National Environmental Law Center under the Federal Clean Water Act ("CWA") and RCRA (collectively the "Acts") on behalf of Environment America, Inc., d/b/a Environment Massachusetts, and Toxics Action Center, Inc., which have referred to themselves as the Citizen Groups. The Citizen Groups alleged that we had violated the Acts, and that they intended to seek appropriate relief in federal court for those alleged violations. On or about June 9, 2017, a lawsuit was filed against us, SRD and the Town in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts by the Citizen Groups and the Residents alleging violations of the Acts (the

“Litigation”), and demanding a variety of remedies under the Acts, including fines, remediation, mitigation and costs of litigation, and remedies for violations of Massachusetts civil law related to personal and property damages, including remediation, diminution of property values, compensation for lost use and enjoyment of properties, enjoinder of further operation of the Southbridge Landfill, and costs of litigation, plus interest on any damage award, on behalf of the Residents. We believe the Litigation to be factually inaccurate, and without legal merit, and we and SRD intend to vigorously defend the Litigation. Nevertheless, we believe it is reasonably possible that a loss will occur as a result of the Litigation although an estimate of loss cannot be reasonably provided at this time due to the infancy of this matter. We also continue to believe the Town should be responsible for costs or liabilities associated with the Litigation relative to alleged contamination originating from the unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill, although there can be no assurance that we will not be required to incur some or all of such costs and liabilities.

We entered into an Administrative Consent Order on April 26, 2017 (the “ACO”), with MADEP, the Town, and the Town of Charlton, committing us to equally share the costs with MADEP, of up to \$10.0 million ( \$5.0 million each) for the Town to install a municipal waterline in the Town of Charlton (“Waterline”). Upon satisfactory completion of that Waterline, and other matters covered by the ACO, we and the Town will be released by MADEP from any future responsibilities for the Charlton Chapter 21E Obligations. We also entered into an agreement with the Town on April 28, 2017 entitled the “21E Settlement and Water System Construction Funding Agreement” (the “Waterline Agreement”), wherein we and the Town released each other from claims arising from the Charlton 21E Obligations. Pursuant to the Waterline Agreement, the Town will issue a twenty (20) year bond for our portion of the Waterline costs (up to \$5.0 million). We have agreed to reimburse the Town for periodic payments under such bond. As of June 30, 2017 , we have recorded an environmental remediation liability of \$6.4 million associated with the future installation of the Waterline in other accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities. Our expenditures could be significantly higher if costs exceed estimates. See Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for information regarding the Southbridge landfill closure charge.

In August 2016, we filed a complaint against Steadfast Insurance Company (“Steadfast”) in the Superior Court of Suffolk County, Massachusetts, alleging among other things, that Steadfast breached its Pollution Liability Policy (“Policy”) purchased by us in April 2015, by refusing to acknowledge coverage under the Policy, and refusing to cover any of the costs and liabilities incurred by us as described above as well as costs and liabilities that we may incur in the future. Steadfast filed an answer and counterclaim in September 2016, denying that it has any obligations to us under the Policy, and seeking a declaratory judgment of Steadfast’s obligations under the Policy. We are in the discovery phase of this litigation. Steadfast has filed a Motion to Dismiss our litigation against it, and we filed our response on July 11, 2017.

The costs and liabilities we may be required to incur in connection with the foregoing Southbridge Landfill matters could be material to our results of operations, our cash flows and our financial condition. On June 13, 2017, Town voters rejected a non-binding ballot initiative intended to provide guidance to Town officials with respect to our pursuit of other landfill development opportunities at the Southbridge Landfill after due consideration of all facts and circumstances, that it is no longer likely that further development at the existing landfill site will generate adequate risk adjusted return at the Southbridge Landfill, and accordingly we expect to cease operations at the Southbridge Landfill when no further capacity is available, expected by no later than December 31, 2018. We have delivered correspondence to the Town to this effect on August 3, 2017, citing events of Change in Law and Force Majeure pursuant to our May 29, 2007 Extension Agreement with the Town (“Extension Agreement”) and the impacts of such events on further expansion of the Southbridge Landfill. We have advised the Town that we see no economically feasible way to operate the Southbridge Landfill beyond its current permitted life. Following cessation of operations, we will proceed to conduct proper closure and other activities at the Southbridge Landfill in accordance with the Extension Agreement with the Town, and Federal, state and local law. We reached this conclusion after carefully evaluating the estimated future costs associated with the permitting, engineering and construction activities for the planned expansion of the Southbridge Landfill against the possible outcomes of the permitting process and the anticipated future benefits of successful expansions. Under the Extension Agreement, which we account for as an operating lease, there are potential contractual obligations and commitments, including future cash payments of \$3.1 million and services that extend beyond the current useful life of the Southbridge Landfill. In accordance with ASC 420, a liability for costs to be incurred under a contract for its remaining term without economic benefit shall be recognized when we cease using the right conveyed by the contract. We may incur a loss associated with these potential contractual obligations upon cessation of operations at the Southbridge Landfill, when remaining capacity is exhausted by the placement of waste at the site.

#### *Potsdam Environmental Remediation Liability*

On December 20, 2000, the State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation (“DEC”) issued an Order on Consent (“Order”) which named Waste-Stream, Inc. (“WSI”), our subsidiary, General Motors Corporation (“GM”) and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (“NiMo”) as Respondents. The Order required that the Respondents undertake certain work on a

25 -acre scrap yard and solid waste transfer station owned by WSI in Potsdam, New York, including the preparation of a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (“Study”). A draft of the Study was submitted to the DEC in January 2009 (followed by a final report in May 2009). The Study estimated that the undiscounted costs associated with implementing the preferred remedies would be approximately \$10.2 million . On February 28, 2011, the DEC issued a Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the site and accepted public comments on the proposed remedy through March 29, 2011. We submitted comments to the DEC on this matter. In April 2011, the DEC issued the final Record of Decision (“ROD”) for the site. The ROD was subsequently rescinded by the DEC for failure to respond to all submitted comments. The preliminary ROD, however, estimated that the present cost associated with implementing the preferred remedies would be approximately \$12.1 million . The DEC issued the final ROD in June 2011 with proposed remedies consistent with its earlier ROD. An Order on Consent and Administrative Settlement naming WSI and NiMo as Respondents was executed by the Respondents and DEC with an effective date of October 25, 2013. On January 29, 2016, a Cost-Sharing Agreement was executed between WSI, NiMo, Alcoa Inc. (“Alcoa”) and Reynolds Metal Company (“Reynolds”) whereby Alcoa and Reynolds elected to voluntarily participate in the onsite remediation activities at a 15% participant share. It is unlikely that any significant expenditures relating to onsite remediation will be incurred until the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. WSI is jointly and severally liable with NiMo, Alcoa and Reynolds for the total cost to remediate.

We have recorded an environmental remediation liability associated with the Potsdam site based on incurred costs to date and estimated costs to complete the remediation in other accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities. Our expenditures could be significantly higher if costs exceed estimates. We inflate the estimated costs in current dollars to the expected time of payment and discount the total cost to present value using a risk free interest rate of 1.5% . The environmental remediation liability associated with the Potsdam site as of each of June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 is \$5.9 million .

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Our business is subject to a number of risks, including those identified in Item 1A, “Risk Factors” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, that could have a material effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and/or liquidity and that could cause our operating results to vary significantly from period to period. As of June 30, 2017, there have been no material changes to the risk factors disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, except as set forth in the following paragraphs. We may disclose additional changes to our risk factors or disclose additional factors from time to time in our future filings with the SEC.

***The waste industry is subject to extensive government regulations, including environmental regulations, and we incur substantial costs to comply with such regulations. Failure to comply with environmental or other regulations, as well as enforcement actions and litigation arising from an actual or perceived breach of such regulations, could subject us to fines, penalties, and judgments, and impose limits on our ability to operate and expand.***

We are subject to potential liability and restrictions under environmental laws, including those relating to transportation, recycling, treatment, storage and disposal of wastes, discharges of pollutants to air and water, and the remediation of contaminated soil, surface water and groundwater. The waste management industry has been and will continue to be subject to regulation, including permitting and related financial assurance requirements, as well as attempts to further regulate the industry, including efforts to regulate the emission of greenhouse gases. Our solid waste operations are subject to a wide range of federal, state and, in some cases, local environmental, odor and noise and land use restrictions. If we are not able to comply with the requirements that apply to a particular facility or if we operate without the necessary approvals or permits, we could be subject to administrative or civil, and possibly criminal, fines and penalties, and we may be required to spend substantial capital to bring an operation into compliance, to temporarily or permanently discontinue activities, and/or take corrective actions, possibly including removal of landfilled materials. Those costs or actions could be significant to us and affect our results of operations, cash flows, and available capital. Environmental and land use laws also affect our ability to expand and, in the case of our solid waste operations, may dictate those geographic areas from which we must, or, from which we may not, accept solid waste. Those laws and regulations may limit the overall size and daily solid waste volume that may be accepted by a solid waste operation. If we are not able to expand or otherwise operate one or more of our facilities because of limits imposed under such laws, we may be required to increase our utilization of disposal facilities owned by third-parties, which could reduce our revenues and/or operating margins.

In addition to complying with environmental laws and regulations, we are required to obtain government permits to operate our facilities, including all of our landfills. There is no guarantee that we will be able to obtain the requisite permits and, even if we could, that any permit (and any existing permits we currently hold) will be renewed or modified as needed to fit our business needs. Localities where we operate generally seek to regulate some or all landfill and transfer station operations, including siting and expansion of operations. The laws adopted by municipalities in which our landfills and transfer stations are located may limit or prohibit the expansion of a landfill or transfer station, as well as the amount of solid waste that we can accept at the landfill or transfer station on a daily, quarterly or annual basis, and any effort to acquire or expand landfills and transfer stations, which typically involves a significant amount of time and expense. We may not be successful in obtaining new landfill or transfer station sites or expanding the permitted capacity of any of our current landfills and transfer stations. If we are unable to develop additional disposal and transfer station capacity, our ability to achieve economies from the internalization of our waste stream will be limited. If we fail to receive new landfill permits or renew existing permits, we may incur landfill asset impairment and other charges associated with accelerated closure.

We have historically grown through acquisitions, may make additional acquisitions in the future, and we have tried and will continue to try to evaluate and limit environmental risks and liabilities presented by businesses to be acquired prior to the acquisition. It is possible that some liabilities may prove to be more difficult or costly to address than we anticipate. It is also possible that government officials responsible for enforcing environmental laws may believe an issue is more serious than we expect, or that we will fail to identify or fully appreciate an existing liability before we become responsible for addressing it. Some of the legal sanctions to which we could become subject could cause the suspension or revocation of a permit, prevent us from, or delay us in, obtaining or renewing permits to operate or expand our facilities, or harm our reputation. As of June 30, 2017, we had recorded \$5.9 million in environmental remediation liabilities for the estimated cost of our share of work associated with a consent order issued by the State of New York to remediate a scrap yard and solid waste transfer station owned by one of our acquired subsidiaries, including the recognition of accretion expense. There can be no assurance that the cost of such cleanup or that our share of that cost will not exceed our estimates.

In addition to the costs of complying with environmental laws and regulations, we incur costs defending against environmental litigation brought by government agencies and private parties. We are, and may be in the future, a defendant in lawsuits brought by parties alleging environmental damage, personal injury, and/or property damage, or seeking to overturn or prevent the

issuance of an operating permit or authorization, all of which may result in us incurring significant liabilities.

In October 2015, our Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park, Inc. (“SRD”) subsidiary reported to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (“MADEP”) results of analysis of samples collected pursuant to our existing permit from private drinking water wells located near the Town of Southbridge, Massachusetts (“Town”) Landfill (“Southbridge Landfill”), which is operated by SRD. Those results indicated the presence of contaminants above the levels triggering notice and response obligations under MADEP regulations. In response to those results, we are carrying out an Immediate Response Action pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 21E (the “Charlton 21E Obligations”) pursuant to state law. Further, we have implemented a plan to analyze and better understand the groundwater near the Southbridge Landfill and we are investigating with the objective of identifying the source or sources of the elevated levels of contamination measured in the well samples. If it is determined that some or all of the contamination originated at the Southbridge Landfill, we will work with the Town, the Southbridge Landfill owner and the former operator of an unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill, which was used prior to our operation of a double-lined portion of the Southbridge Landfill commencing in 2004, to evaluate and allocate the liabilities related to the Charlton 21E Obligations. In July 2016, we sent correspondence to the Town pursuant to Chapter 21E of Massachusetts General Laws (“Chapter 21E”) demanding that the Town reimburse us for the environmental response costs we had spent and that the Town be responsible for all such costs in the future, as well as any other costs or liabilities resulting from the release of contaminants from the unlined portion of the Southbridge Landfill. The Town responded in September 2016, denying that the Southbridge Landfill is the source of such contamination, and claiming that if it is, that we may owe an indemnity to the Town pursuant to the Operating Agreement between us and the Town dated May 29, 2007, as amended. As of June 30, 2017, we have incurred total costs of approximately \$3,745. We entered into a Tolling Agreement with the Town to delay any further administrative or legal actions until our work with MADEP more specifically defines the parties’ responsibilities for the Charlton 21E Obligations, if any.

In February 2016, we and the Town received a Notice of Intent to Sue under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (“RCRA”) from a law firm purporting to represent residents proximate to the Southbridge Landfill (“Residents”), indicating its intent to file suit against us on behalf of the Residents alleging the groundwater contamination originated from the Southbridge Landfill. In February 2017, we received an additional Notice of Intent to Sue from the National Environmental Law Center under the Federal Clean Water Act (“CWA”) and RCRA (collectively the “Acts”) on behalf of Environment America, Inc., d/b/a Environment Massachusetts, and Toxics Action Center, Inc., which have referred to themselves as the Citizen Groups. The Citizen Groups alleged that we had violated the Acts, and that they intended to seek appropriate relief in federal court for those alleged violations. On or about June 9, 2017, a lawsuit was filed against us, SRD and the Town in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts by the Citizen Groups and the Residents alleging violations of the Acts (the “Litigation”), and demanding a variety of remedies under the Acts, including fines, remediation, mitigation and costs of litigation, and remedies for violations of Massachusetts civil law related to personal and property damages, including remediation, diminution of property values, compensation for lost use and enjoyment of properties, enjoinder of further operation of the Southbridge Landfill, and costs of litigation, plus interest on any damage award, on behalf of the Residents. We believe it is reasonably possible that a loss will occur as a result of the Litigation although an estimate of loss cannot be reasonably provided at this time due to the infancy of this matter.

We may not have sufficient insurance coverage for our environmental liabilities, such coverage may not cover all of the potential liabilities we may be subject to and/or we may not be able to obtain insurance coverage in the future at reasonable expense, or at all.

The conduct of our businesses is also subject to various other laws and regulations administered by federal, state and local governmental agencies, including tax laws, employment laws and competition laws, among others. New laws, regulations or governmental policy and their related interpretations, or changes in any of the foregoing, including taxes or other limitations on our services, may alter the environment in which we do business and, therefore, may impact our results or increase our costs or liabilities.

In certain jurisdictions, we are subject to compliance with specific obligations under competition laws due to our competitive position in those jurisdictions. For example, in May 2002, we entered into an assurance of discontinuance with the Vermont Attorney General’s Office concerning, among other matters, the conduct of our business in Vermont relating to certain contract terms applicable to our small commercial container customers. In August 2011, a revised final judgment of consent and order was entered by the Vermont Superior Court Washington Unit, Civil Division, as a result of some of our small commercial container customers having been mistakenly issued contracts that did not strictly comply with the terms of the assurance of discontinuance. Pursuant to the order, we paid a civil penalty in an aggregate amount of \$1.0 million. In July 2014, we entered into an assurance of discontinuance with the office of the New York Attorney General in connection with certain of our commercial practices in certain specified counties in New York, pursuant to which we paid the State of New York a sum of \$0.1 million. The assurances of discontinuance and order provide for certain restrictions on our customer contract terms, certain

conditions on our business acquisitions, sales and market share and require us to maintain an internal compliance program. Failure to comply with these requirements or other laws or regulations could subject us to enforcement actions or financial penalties which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

See also Part II, Item I, “Legal Proceedings” and Note 8, Commitments and Contingencies to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

#### **ITEM 5A. OTHER INFORMATION**

Following the rejection by the voters of the Town of Southbridge, Massachusetts (the “Town”) of a non-binding ballot initiative intended to provide guidance to Town officials with respect to our pursuit of other landfill development opportunities at the Town of Southbridge, Massachusetts Landfill (the “Southbridge Landfill”), our senior management determined after due consideration of all facts and circumstances that further development at the existing landfill site will generate an adequate risk adjusted return at the Southbridge Landfill and that we will accordingly cease operations at the Southbridge Landfill when no further capacity is available, expected by no later than December 31, 2018. On August 1, 2017, our board of directors formally approved this plan and, accordingly, in the three months ended June 30, 2017, we recorded a charge of \$64.1 million (the “Southbridge closure charge”) associated with our determination that operations would cease at the Southbridge Landfill, including an asset impairment charge of \$48.0 million related to the Southbridge Landfill asset group; a project development charge of \$9.1 million related to the write-off of deferred costs associated with landfill permitting activities no longer deemed viable; an environmental remediation charge of \$6.4 million associated with the future installation of a municipal waterline; and a charge of \$0.6 million for legal and transaction costs associated with various matters as part of the Southbridge Landfill closure. As part of our decision to cease operations, we assessed the estimated costs and timing of cash flows associated with final capping, closure and post-closure activities at the Southbridge Landfill. We expect cash outflows in the next five years associated with these activities to be approximately \$21.0 million and we do not believe that this will negatively impact our liquidity during this time. In addition, we estimate that over \$50.0 million in additional tax deductions related to ceasing operations will be recognized in the next five years. The Southbridge closure charge is reflected in our consolidated financial statements for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017. For additional information, see Note 8, *Commitments and Contingencies* and Note 11, *Other Items and Charges* to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

With respect to the asset impairment charge, we performed a test of recoverability under FASB ASC 360, which indicated that the carrying value of our asset group that included the Southbridge Landfill was no longer recoverable and, as a result, the asset group was assessed for impairment with an impairment charge allocated to the long-lived assets of Southbridge landfill in accordance with FASB ASC 360. For additional information, see Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements included under Part I, Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

#### **ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

The exhibits that are filed as part of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or that are incorporated by reference herein are set forth in the Exhibit Index hereto.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

Date: August 3, 2017

By: /s/ Christopher B. Heald

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Christopher B. Heald

Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

(Principal Accounting Officer)

Date: August 3, 2017

By: /s/ Edmond R. Coletta

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edmond R. Coletta

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

## Exhibit Index

10.1	First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of April 18, 2017, by and among Casella Waste Systems, Inc., the subsidiaries of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. identified therein, the lenders party thereto and BAnk of America N. A. , as administrative agent (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. as filed on April 18, 2017 (file No. 000-23211)).
10.2+	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under 2016 Incentive Plan (non-employee director).
31.1 +	Certification of John W. Casella, Principal Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes – Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2 +	Certification of Edmond R. Coletta, Principal Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes – Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1 ++	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2 ++	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document.**
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.**
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document.**
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document.**
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document.**
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.**
**	Submitted Electronically Herewith. Attached as Exhibit 101 to this report are the following formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Consolidated Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, (iii) Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive (Loss) Income for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, (iv) Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Deficit for the six months ended June 30, 2017, (v) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, and (vi) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.
+	Filed Herewith
++	Furnished Herewith

CERTIFICATION

I, John W. Casella, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Casella Waste Systems, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: August 3, 2017

By: /s/ John W. Casella

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

CERTIFICATION

I, Edmond R. Coletta, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Casella Waste Systems, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: August 3, 2017

By: /s/ Edmond R. Coletta

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Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. for the period ended June 30, 2017 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (“Report”), the undersigned, John W. Casella, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that, to his knowledge:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, our financial condition and results of operations.

Date: August 3, 2017

By: /s/ John W. Casella

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. for the period ended June 30, 2017 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (“Report”), the undersigned, Edmond R. Coletta, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that, to his knowledge:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, our financial condition and results of operations.

Date: August 3, 2017

By: /s/ Edmond R. Coletta

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)