State of New Jersey

Hazardous Waste Facilities
Siting Commission

July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997

If you would like a personal briefing, please call me at (609) 292-3700.

Peter M. Guilfoyle
Assistant State Auditor
October 20, 1997
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State of New Jersey  
Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Commission  

**Scope**  
We have completed an audit of the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Commission (commission) for the period July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997. Our audit included financial activities accounted for in the state’s General Fund.

Total expenditures of the commission during the twelve month audit period were $119,000. The expenditures were comprised of $44,000 for operating costs and $75,000 state aid to the City of Linden for technical defense in the hazardous waste incinerator proceedings. The prime responsibilities of the commission are the approval of sites for new hazardous waste facilities, the preparation of a hazardous waste plan, and regular updates to the plan.

**Objectives**  
The objectives of our audit were to determine whether financial transactions were related to the commission’s programs, were reasonable, and were recorded properly in the accounting systems.

The audit was conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:1E-83, which states that the State Auditor shall conduct an annual audit of the commission’s activities pursuant to the provisions of Title 52 of the New Jersey Statutes.

**Methodology**  
Our audit was conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

In preparation for our testing, we studied legislation, administrative code, circular letters promulgated by the State Comptroller, and policies of the commission. Provisions that we considered significant were documented and compliance with those requirements
was verified by interview and observation and through our samples of financial transactions. We also read the budget message, reviewed financial trends, and interviewed agency personnel to obtain an understanding of the programs and the internal control structure.

A nonstatistical sampling approach was used. Our samples of financial transactions were designed to provide conclusion about the validity of transactions as well as internal control and compliance attributes. Transactions were judgmentally selected.

**Conclusion**

We found that the financial transactions included in our testing were related to the commission’s programs, were reasonable, and were recorded properly in the accounting system. In making this determination, we noted the commission has not prepared a 1996 Annual Report.
Annual Report

N.J.S.A. 13:1E-84 requires the commission on or before March 31 in each year to make an annual report of its activities for the preceding calendar year to the Governor and to the Legislature. The commission has not completed an annual report for 1996. The report shall set forth a complete operating and financial statement covering its operations during the year.

There was no commission staff between July 1996 and February 1997. We have been informed by the Executive Director that the 1996 and 1997 annual reports will be combined.

Recommendation

We recommend that the commission comply with N.J.S.A. 13:1E-84.

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