State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 56

WHEREAS, reduction of solid waste at the source and the reuse and recycling of waste materials will reduce the flow of waste to sanitary landfills and increase the supply of reusable materials for the use of the public; and

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa has taken significant measures to promote alternatives to landfilling by establishing solid waste reduction goals of 25 percent by 1994 and 50 percent by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of recycled products helps conserve natural resources, reduce energy consumption, and strengthen the state's economy by developing innovative technologies, new industry and jobs; and

WHEREAS, state government has a role to play as a model for the public and private sectors in Iowa in developing and implementing comprehensive programs for waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and the use of recycled products.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws and Constitution of the State of Iowa, do hereby order that:

I. All state agencies shall maximize their efforts to :

A. reduce the amount of solid waste they generate;

B. recycle material recoverable from solid waste originating at their facilities; and

C. purchase and use products made from recycled materials.

II. All state agencies shall discourage the use of disposable products where reusable products are available, economically viable for use, and concur with health and safety regulations. Further, state agencies shall assess their waste generation with regard to purchasing decisions and make every attempt to purchase items only when needed and in amounts that are not excessive. When purchases are necessary, state agencies shall, to the extent feasible and practicable, acquire durable items or items that are readily recyclable when discarded, have minimal packaging, and are less toxic.

III. All state agencies shall avoid unnecessary printing or photocopying of printed materials, and shall require two-sided copying on all documents when feasible and practicable.

IV. All state agencies shall apply computer technology to reduce the generation of waste paper through: electronic bulletin boards, electronic vs. paper form, and other computer technology, as available resources permit such development.

V. All state agencies shall review and expand the collection of recyclable materials at state office facilities in accordance with current recyclable markets in order to increase the quantity of materials recycled by state government and to diminish reliance on land disposal.

VI. As provided in this Order, all state agencies shall aggressively explore opportunities for purchasing products having recycled content in place of virgin products, and in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, shall actively promote the purchase of recycled products by state agencies and others eligible to purchase items from state contracts.

VII. Product specifications shall be written to encourage vendors to offer products having recycled content. When products having recycled content are offered that are comparable in quality, performance, availability, and price to products not having recycled content, and there are no other mitigating factors, term contracts shall carry only the recycled products.

VIII All state agencies shall meet the following goals for the purchase and use of recycled printing and writing paper in conducting their official business:

A. Seventy-five percent by January 1, 1996, and

B. Ninety percent by January 1, 2000.

For the purposes of this Executive Order, the definition of "recycled paper" will follow current EPA standards and guidelines and any subsequent modifications thereto. Current EPA standards and guidelines define "recycled paper" products as a product with a minimum of twenty percent (20%) postconsumer waste.

IX. All state agencies are directed to purchase and use recycled paper for all letterhead stationery, reports, memoranda, and other documents when feasible and practicable. All documents that are printed on recycled paper should prominently display the recycled paper symbol and, when practical and feasible, the words "printed on recycled paper".

X. All state agencies shall work together in an effort to make joint purchases of recycled products whenever practical in order to acquire these products at the lowest possible cost.

XI. The Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the Department of Economic Development, will establish additional mechanisms for state government to develop markets for recyclable materials.

XII. Executive Order Number 37, dated February 13, 1989, is rescinded and replaced with Executive Order Number 56.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done on this 18th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred ninety-five.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE