

## **Replacement Operator for the Savannah Waste-to-Energy Facility**

Jay Howell, Facility Manager  
Montenay Savannah Operations, Inc.  
(912) 236-1014  
[JHowell@montenay-onyx.com](mailto:JHowell@montenay-onyx.com)

The Savannah Waste-to-Energy Facility (the Facility) is a mass burn waste-to-energy facility with a processing capacity of 624 tons per day. The Facility commenced commercial operation in 1987, as a public-private partnership with the Resource Recovery Development Authority for the City of Savannah, Georgia. In April 2002, Montenay took over operation of the Facility from Katy-Seghers, continuing the established partnership Katy-Seghers had with the City of Savannah. This paper presents a case study of a successful change in operator for a waste-to-energy facility, detailing the hurdles crossed transitioning operation of the Facility to Montenay.

Transition of Facility operation to Montenay required immediate actions, including updating permits, transitioning personnel, and revising policies and procedures from one operating entity to another. Over a longer period of time, continuing today, transition of Facility operation to Montenay has included assessing and upgrading the physical conditions of the plant and surrounding site. These transition activities have been conducted with the goal of improving Facility performance, maintaining the Facility's established relations with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and continuing the successful partnership with the City of Savannah. This paper details the hurdles crossed in implementing the transition.

Jahue L. Howell, Jr. (Jay) is the Facility Manager for the Montenay Savannah facility. This follows assignments with Montenay at the Miami-Dade County, Florida facility, the Islip-Ronkonkoma, New York facility and the Dutchess County, New York facility. He received the Savannah assignment when the partnership between Katy-Seghers and Montenay developed in early 2002. Prior to joining Montenay in 1991, Mr. Howell was a Senior Technical Advisor for Schneider Engineers, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania, working at the Hyperion Sludge Combustion Sub-Stoichiometric Fluidized Bed Project in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Howell has worked in power plant, utility and waste-to-energy businesses since 1976 having started his career with the Tennessee Valley Authority's Student Generating Plant Operator training program.