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Association of New Jersey Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators (ANJHHWC) Awarded Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) Grant

The Association of New Jersey Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators (ANJHHWC) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC). RBRC's *Call2Recycle* program is a free program that collects used rechargeable batteries and old cell phones through a network of retailers, businesses and public agencies.

ANJHHWC's goals are to broaden the number of drop off locations throughout NJ as well as educate residents that this free and convenient program exists. The Association believes that despite the availability of the RBRC program and the programs run by New Jersey counties, rechargeable batteries are still being improperly disposed of in our landfills and waste-to-energy facilities. The majority of the funding will be dedicated to implementing a public outreach campaign aimed at encouraging New Jersey residents to recycle rechargeable batteries through existing Call2Recycle drop off locations. To find the nearest drop off location to recycle your used rechargeable batteries and old cell phones call **1-877-2-RECYCLE** or visit www.call2recycle.org.

By participating in the RBRC Program, companies can help to preserve the environment by encouraging their customers and employees to take part. Once a business is signed up, RBRC will send collection boxes with pre-paid, pre-addressed shipping labels, safety instructions and plastic bags for used rechargeable batteries and old cell phones. Once the box is full, it is shipped to the recycling facility at no cost.

Rechargeable batteries are commonly found in many portable electronics used in businesses such as cellular phones, laptop computers and two-way radios. Rechargeable batteries are also found in common household electronics such as cordless telephones, cordless power tools, digital cameras, and camcorders. When the battery no longer holds a charge, it should be recycled. The US EPA estimates that Americans purchase nearly 350 million rechargeable batteries every year. Through the RBRC program in 2009, 6.1 million pounds of batteries were collected.

Covanta Energy has also agreed to partner with ANJHHWC on this important educational campaign. Covanta Energy is an internationally recognized owner and operator of Energy-from-Waste and power generation projects including three Energy-from-Waste facilities in New Jersey. Covanta Energy's facilities convert municipal solid waste into clean, renewable energy to help power local communities and reduce their environmental footprint. "We're pleased to partner with ANJHHWC on this effort which is consistent with Covanta's Clean World Initiative, a program dedicated to improving the company's overall environmental performance", said Lorenzo Rizzi, Business Manager for Covanta Energy in Rahway, NJ.

Like RBRC, ANJHHWC supports recycling efforts and is committed to protecting the environment. ANJHHWC is a registered 501(c) (3) organization and is governed by an Executive Board. Please visit www.njhazwaste.com to learn more about the Association.