## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### **FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended January 31, 2005

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

### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

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  $\boxtimes$  No  $\square$ 

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act) Yes 🗷 No 🗖

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of February 28, 2005: Class A Common Stock 23,859,311 Class B Common Stock 988,200

#### PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

		April 30, 2004	d	January 31, 2005
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	8,007	\$	7,361
Restricted cash		12,419		12,464
Accounts receivable - trade, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$583 and \$813		49,462		48,356
Notes receivable - officers/employees		1,105		1,005
Refundable income taxes		623		677
Prepaid expenses		4,164		4,701
Inventory		1,848		2,146
Deferred income taxes		4,328		5,172
Other current assets		854		1,254
Total current assets		82,810		83,136
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$268,019 and				
\$313,862		372,038		402,948
Goodwill		157,230		160,492
Intangible assets, net		3,578		3,017
Deferred income taxes		5,631		—
Investments in unconsolidated entities		37,914		37,899
Net assets under contractual obligation		2,148		1,406
Other non-current assets		14,928		14,990
		593,467		620,752
	<u>^</u>		<b>^</b>	
	\$	676,277	\$	703,888

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

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

	April 30, 2004	January 31, 2005		
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
CURRENT LIABILITIES:				
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 5,542	\$	3,385	
Current maturities of capital lease obligations	602		636	
Accounts payable	40,034		33,933	
Accrued payroll and related expenses	7,425		8,041	
Accrued interest	6,024		10,583	
Accrued capping, closure and post-closure costs, current portion	2,471		5,385	
Other accrued liabilities	25,273		27,735	
Total current liabilities	 87,371		89,698	
Long-term debt, less current maturities	349,163		365,680	
Capital lease obligations, less current maturities	1,367		1,638	
Accrued capping, closure and post-closure costs, less current maturities	22,752		21,574	
Deferred income taxes			770	
Other long-term liabilities	18,493		17,361	
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES Series A redeemable, convertible preferred stock - Authorized - 55,750 shares, issued and outstanding - 55,750 and 53,750 as of April 30, 2004 and				
January 31, 2005, respectively, liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share plus accrued but unpaid dividends	67,076		67,125	
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: Class A common stock - Authorized - 100,000,000 shares, \$0.01 par value; issued and outstanding - 23,496,000 and				
23,857,000 shares as of April 30, 2004 and January 31, 2005, respectively	235		239	
Class B common stock -	200		237	
Authorized - 1,000,000 shares, \$0.01 par value, 10 votes per share, issued and outstanding - 988,000				
shares	10		10	
Accumulated other comprehensive income	408		868	
Additional paid-in capital	272,993		274,883	
Accumulated deficit	(143,591)		(135,958)	
Total stockholders' equity	 130.055		140.042	
	 150,055		140,042	
	\$ 676,277	\$	703,888	

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)

	Т	hree Months E	ided .	January 31,		Nine Months End	ied Ja	ed January 31,		
		2004		2005	_	2004		2005		
Revenues	\$	104,144	\$	116,080	\$	329,141	\$	366,133		
Operating expenses:										
Cost of operations		67,540		76,736		213,187		234,399		
General and administration		14,647		15,503		43,805		47,389		
Depreciation and amortization		14,595		16,271		44,299		51,068		
Deferred costs								295		
		96,782		108,510		301,291		333,151		
Operating income		7,362		7,570		27,850		32,982		
Other expense/(income), net:		, i		,		,		, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		
Interest income		(53)		(131)		(192)		(301)		
Interest expense		6,294		7,380		18,551		21,878		
Income from equity method investment		(1, 171)		(1,556)		(2,069)		(2,483)		
Other expense/(income)		(343)		(642)		(721)		109		
Other expense, net		4,727		5,051		15,569		19,203		
Income from continuing operations before income taxes, discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle		2,635		2,519		12,281		13,779		
Provision for income taxes		1,149		1,122		1,627		6,136		
						<u> </u>				
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle		1,486		1,397		10,654		7,643		
Discontinued Operations:										
Income from discontinued operations (net of income taxes of \$5, \$0, \$4 and \$96)		4		_		_		140		
Loss on disposal of discontinued operations (net of income taxes of \$645)		_		_				(150)		
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle (net of income taxes of \$1,856)				_		2,723		_		
Net income	-	1,490	_	1,397		13,377		7,633		
Preferred stock dividend		818		829		2,423		2,499		
Net income available to common stockholders	\$	672	\$	568	\$	10,954	\$	5,134		

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

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

	Three Months Ended January 31,					Nine Months En	ded J	anuary 31,
		2004		2005		2004		2005
Earnings Per Share:								
Basic:								
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle available to								
common stockholders	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.34	\$	0.21
Income from discontinued operations, net		—		_		—		0.01
Loss on disposal of discontinued operations, net				—				(0.01)
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net						0.11		
Net income per common share available to common stockholders	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.45	\$	0.21
Basic weighted average common shares outstanding		24,062		24,768		23,919	_	24,625
Diluted:								
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle available to								
common stockholders	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.34	\$	0.20
Income from discontinued operations, net						_		0.01
Loss on disposal of discontinued operations, net		—		—		—		(0.01)
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net						0.11		
Net income per common share available to common stockholders	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.45	\$	0.20
Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding		24,795		25,380		24,427		25,125

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)

	Nine Months Ended January 31,					
		2004	2005			
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:						
Net income	\$	13,377 \$	7,633			
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities -						
Depreciation and amortization		44,299	51,068			
Depletion of landfill operating lease obligations		395	3,729			
Loss on disposal of discontinued operations		—	150			
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net		(2,723)	—			
Income from equity method investment		(2,069)	(2,483)			
Dividend from equity method investment		_	2,000			
Deferred costs		—	295			
Gain on sale of equipment		(274)	(4)			
Deferred income taxes		838	4,760			
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and divestitures -						
Accounts receivable		(2,069)	914			
Accounts payable		(1,068)	(6,101)			
Other assets and liabilities		(4,923)	107			
		32,406	54,435			
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		45,783	62,068			
		<u> </u>	<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>			
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:						
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired		(31,889)	(6,486)			
Additions to property, plant and equipment		(37,442)	(56,154)			
Payments on landfill operating lease contracts		(4,305)	(19,790)			
Proceeds from divestitures		_	3,050			
Proceeds from sale of equipment		451	1,097			
Advances to unconsolidated entities		(7,074)				
Proceeds from assets under contractual obligation		515	742			
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities		(79,744)	(77,541)			
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:						
Proceeds from long-term borrowings		124,828	120,350			
Principal payments on long-term debt		(100,933)	(107,145)			
Proceeds from exercise of stock options		3,709	1,622			
Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities		27.604	14.827			
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(6,357)	(646)			
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		15,652	8,007			
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Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	<u>9,295</u> \$	7,361			

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

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

	Nine Months Ende	ed January 31,	
	2004	2005	5
Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information:			
Cash paid during the period for -			
Interest	\$ 13,827	\$	16,155
Income taxes, net of refunds	\$ 764	\$	999
Supplemental Disclosures of Non-Cash Investing and Financing Activities:			
Summary of entities acquired in purchase business combinations -			
Fair value of assets acquired	\$ 43,862	\$	7,327
Cash paid, net	 (31,889)		(6,486)
Liabilities assumed and notes payable to seller	\$ 11,973	\$	841

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. ORGANIZATION

The consolidated balance sheets of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (the "Parent") and Subsidiaries (the "Company") as of April 30, 2004 and January 31, 2005, the consolidated statements of operations for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 are unaudited. In the opinion of management, such 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 consolidated financial statements presented herein should be read in connection with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the twelve months ended April 30, 2004. These were included as part of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended April 30, 2004 (the "Annual Report"). The results for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2005 may not be indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2005.

#### 2. RECLASSIFICATIONS

The Company divested the assets of Data Destruction Services, Inc. (Data Destruction) during the quarter ended October 31, 2004. The transaction required discontinued operations treatment under SFAS No. 144, therefore the operating results of Data Destruction have been reclassified from continuing to discontinued operations for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004.

Effective November 1, 2004 the Eastern region was divided into the North Eastern and South Eastern regions because of a change in the Company's internal reporting structure. Therefore, segment data for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2005 has been revised to reflect changes in the Company's segment classifications.

#### 3. BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

During the nine months ended January 31, 2005, the Company acquired seven solid waste hauling operations in transactions accounted for as purchases. These transactions were in exchange for total consideration of \$7,327 including \$6,486 in cash and \$841 in liabilities assumed and notes payable to the sellers. During the nine months ended January 31, 2004, the Company acquired seven solid waste hauling operations and one construction and demolition processing facility, which also operates a landfill facility under an operations and management contract. These transactions were in exchange for total consideration of \$43,862 including \$31,889 in cash and \$11,973 in liabilities assumed and notes payable to the sellers. The operating results of these businesses are included in the consolidated statements of operations from the dates of acquisition. The purchase prices have been allocated to the net assets acquired based on their fair values at the dates of acquisition including the value of non-compete agreements with the residual amounts allocated to goodwill. Management does not believe the final purchase price allocation will produce materially different results than reflected herein.

The following unaudited pro forma combined information shows the results of the Company's operations as though each of the acquisitions made in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 had been completed as of May 1, 2003.



	Three Months Ended January 31,					Nine Mon Janua		
		2004	2005			2004		2005
Revenue	\$	105,954	\$	116,233	\$	335,853	\$	367,977
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative								
effect of change in accounting principle		1,639		1,401		11,263		7,747
Net income		1,643		1,401		13,986		7,737
Diluted net income per common share	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.47	\$	0.21

The foregoing pro forma results have been prepared for comparative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the actual results of operations had the acquisitions taken place as of May 1, 2003 or the results of future operations of the Company. Furthermore, such 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

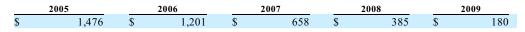
The following table shows the activity and balances related to goodwill from April 30, 2004 through January 31, 2005:

	th Eastern Region	So	outh Eastern Region	С	entral Region	W	estern Region	Recycling	Total
Balance, April 30, 2004	\$ 25,770	\$	30,491	\$	28,683	\$	50,918	\$ 21,368	\$ 157,230
Acquisitions	—		1,156		1,475		2,453		5,084
Divestitures	_		_					(1,822)	(1,822)
Balance, January 31, 2005	\$ 25,770	\$	31,647	\$	30,158	\$	53,371	\$ 19,546	\$ 160,492

Intangible assets at April 30, 2004 and January 31, 2005 consist of the following:

	Covenants not to compete		Customer lists	Total
Balance, April 30, 2004				
Intangible assets	\$ 16,402	\$	688	\$ 17,090
Less accumulated amortization	(12,995)		(517)	(13,512)
	\$ 3,407	\$	171	\$ 3,578
Balance, January 31, 2005				
Intangible assets	\$ 16,883	\$	689	\$ 17,572
Less accumulated amortization	(13,971)		(584)	(14,555)
	\$ 2,912	\$	105	\$ 3,017

Amortization expense for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 was \$435, \$353, \$1,160 and \$1,139, respectively. The intangible amortization expense estimated as of January 31, 2005, for the five years following 2004 is as follows:



#### 5. ADOPTION OF NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

SFAS 123R, *Share-Based Payment*, was issued by FASB in December 2004. SFAS 123R replaces SFAS 123 and supersedes APB Opinion No. 25 requiring public companies to recognize compensation expense for the cost of awards of equity instruments. This compensation cost will be measured as the fair value of the award on the grant date estimated using an option-pricing model. SFAS 123R is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after June 15, 2005. The Company is evaluating the various transition provisions under SFAS 123R and will adopt SFAS 123R effective August 1, 2005, which is expected to result in increased compensation expense in future periods.

#### 6. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the normal course of its business and as a result of the extensive governmental regulation of the waste industry, the Company may periodically become subject to various judicial and administrative proceedings involving Federal, state or local agencies. In these proceedings, an agency may seek to impose fines on the Company or to revoke, or to deny renewal of, an operating permit held by the Company. In addition, the Company may become party to various claims and suits for alleged damages to persons and property, alleged violation of certain laws and for alleged liabilities arising out of matters occurring during the normal operation of the waste management business.

During the period of November 21, 1996 to October 9, 1997, the Company performed certain closure activities and installed a cut-off wall at the Clinton County landfill, located in Clinton County, New York. On or about April 1999, the New York State Department of Labor ("DOL") alleged that the Company should have paid prevailing wages in connection with the labor associated with such activities. The Company has disputed the allegations and a hearing on the liability issue was held on September 16, 2002. In November 2002, both sides submitted proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law. On May 12, 2004, the Commissioner of Labor issued an order finding that the closure activities and the cut-off wall project were "public works" projects that were subject to prevailing wage requirements. On June 10, 2004 the Company filed a judicial challenge to the Commissioner's decision, which was stayed for a 9-month period. On March 4, 2005, because the DOL is still reviewing the records related to potential damages, the Company made a motion to extend the period for perfecting its appeal, or alternatively, to confirm that a withdrawal of its appeal would be without prejudice and without a waiver of the right to reinstate the appeal upon a final determination of alleged damages. The Company will continue to explore settlement possibilities with the State in lieu of a hearing on damages, which is not yet scheduled. Although a loss as a result of these claims is probable, the Company cannot estimate a range of probable losses at this time. A charge incurred by the Company related to these claims will not have an immediate impact on operations but will be capitalized as part of the related landfill asset and amortized over the life of the landfill as tons are placed at the site.

The Company is a defendant in certain other lawsuits alleging various claims, none of which, either individually or in the aggregate, the Company believes are material to its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

#### 7. ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES

The Company is subject to liability for any environmental damage, including personal injury and property

damage, that its 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 existing before the Company acquired the facilities. The Company may also be subject to liability for similar claims arising from off-site environmental contamination caused by pollutants or hazardous substances if the Company or its predecessors arrange to transport, treat or dispose of those materials. Any substantial liability incurred by the Company arising from environmental damage could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations. The Company is not presently aware of any situations that it expects would have a material adverse impact on the results of operations or financial condition.

#### 8. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table sets forth the numerator and denominator used in the computation of earnings per share:

	Thr	ee Months En	ded J	anuary 31,	Nin	e Months En	ded J	d January 31,		
		2004		2005		2004		2005		
Numerator:										
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative										
effect of change in accounting principle	\$	1,486	\$	1,397	\$	10,654	\$	7,643		
Less: Preferred stock dividends		(818)		(829)		(2,423)		(2,499)		
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative				_		_				
effect of change in accounting principle available to common stockholders	\$	668	\$	568	\$	8,231	\$	5,144		
Denominator:										
Number of shares outstanding, end of period:										
Class A common stock		23,189		23,857		23,189		23,857		
Class B common stock		988		988		988		988		
Effect of weighted average shares outstanding during period		(115)		(77)		(258)		(220)		
Weighted average number of common shares used in basic EPS		24,062		24,768		23,919		24,625		
Impact of potentially dilutive securities:			_				_			
Dilutive effect of options, convertible preferred stock and contingent stock		733		612		508		500		
Weighted average number of common shares used in diluted EPS		24,795		25,380		24,427		25,125		

For the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004, 6,195 and 6,703 common stock equivalents related to options and redeemable convertible preferred stock, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of dilutive shares since the inclusion of such shares would be anti-dilutive.

For the three and nine months ended January 31, 2005, 6,002 and 6,309 common stock equivalents related to options and redeemable convertible preferred stock, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of dilutive shares since the inclusion of such shares would be anti-dilutive.

#### 9. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Comprehensive income is defined as the change in net assets of a business enterprise during a period from transactions generated from non-owner sources. It includes all changes in equity during a period except those resulting from investments by owners and distributions to owners. Accumulated other comprehensive income included in the accompanying balance sheets consists of changes in the fair value of the Company's interest rate swap and commodity hedge agreements as well as the cumulative effect of the change in accounting principle due to the adoption of SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended. Also included in accumulated other comprehensive income is the

Company's portion of the change in the fair value of commodity hedge agreements of the Company's equity method investment, US GreenFiber. Comprehensive income for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 is as follows:

	Thr	ee Months Er	January 31,	Ν	anuary 31,				
	2004			2005		2004	2005		
Net income	\$	1,490	\$	1,397	\$	13,377	\$	7,633	
Other comprehensive income (loss)		(1,034)		427		(569)		460	
Comprehensive income	\$	456	\$	1,824	\$	12,808	\$	8,093	

The components of other comprehensive income for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 are shown as follows:

			Three Mor	ths Ended				
		January 31, 2004			5			
	Gross Tax effect Ne		Net of Tax	Gross	Tax effect	Net of Tax		
Change in fair value of interest rate swaps and commodity hedges during period	<u>\$ (1,738)</u>	<u>\$ (704</u> )	\$ (1,034)	\$ 719	\$ 292	<u>\$ 427</u>		
		January 31, 2004		January 31, 2005				
	Gross	Tax effect	Net of Tax	Gross	Tax effect	Net of Tax		
Change in fair value of interest rate swaps and commodity hedges during period	\$ (956)	\$ (387)	\$ (569)	\$ 777	\$ 317	\$ 460		

#### 10. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES

The Company's strategy to hedge against fluctuations in the commodity prices of recycled paper is to enter into hedges to mitigate the variability in cash flows generated from the sales of recycled paper at floating prices, resulting in a fixed price being received from these sales. The Company is party to twenty-five commodity hedge contracts as of January 31, 2005. These contracts expire between April 2005 and October 2006. The Company has evaluated these hedges and believes that these instruments qualify for hedge accounting pursuant to SFAS No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*, as amended. As of January 31, 2005 the fair value of these hedges was an obligation of \$1,695, with the net amount (net of taxes of \$674) recorded as an unrealized loss in accumulated other comprehensive income.

The Company is party to two interest swap agreements as of January 31, 2005 for an aggregate notional amount of \$53,000 expiring in February 2006. The Company has evaluated these swaps and believes these instruments qualify for hedge accounting pursuant to SFAS No. 133. As of January 31, 2005, the fair value of these swaps was \$430, with the net amount (net of taxes of \$173) recorded as an unrealized gain in accumulated other comprehensive income. The estimated net amount of the existing gains as of January 31, 2005 included in accumulated other comprehensive income expected to be reclassified into earnings as payments are either made or received under the terms of the interest rate swaps within the next 12 months is approximately \$403. The actual amounts reclassified into earnings are dependent on future movements in interest rates.

#### 11. STOCK BASED COMPENSATION PLANS

The Company has elected to account for its stock-based compensation plans under APB Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, for which no compensation expense is recorded in the statements of operations for the estimated fair value of stock options issued with an exercise price equal to the fair value of the underlying common stock on the grant date.

During fiscal 1996, the FASB issued SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, which defines a fair value based method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and encourages all entities to adopt that method of accounting for all of their employee stock compensation plans. However, it also allows an entity to continue to measure compensation costs for those plans using the intrinsic method of accounting prescribed by APB Opinion No. 25. Entities electing to remain with the accounting in APB Opinion No. 25 must make pro forma disclosures of net income and earnings per share as if the fair value based method of accounting defined in SFAS No. 123 had been applied. In addition, the Company has adopted the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure.* FASB issued SFAS 123R in December 2004 requiring public companies to recognize compensation expense for the cost of awards of equity instruments. (See footnote #5).

In accordance with SFAS No. 123 and SFAS No. 148, the Company has computed, for pro forma disclosure purposes, the value as of the grant date of all options granted using the Black-Scholes option pricing model as prescribed by SFAS No. 123, using the following weighted average assumptions for grants in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005.

	Nine Months Ended January 31, 2004		Nine Months Ended January 31, 2005	
Risk free interest rate	2.34 - 3.23	%	3.39 - 3.97	%
Expected dividend yield	N/A		N/A	
Expected life	5 Years		5 Years	
Expected volatility	45.88	%	40.90	%

The total value of options granted would be amortized on a pro forma basis over the vesting period of the options. Options generally vest over a one to three year period. If the Company had accounted for these plans in accordance with SFAS No. 123, the Company's net income and net income per share would have changed as reflected in the following pro forma amounts:

	Th	ee Months Er	nded Jar	uary 31,	Nine Months Ended January 31				
	<b>2004</b>			2005		2004		2005	
Net income available to common stockholders, as reported	\$	672	\$	568	\$	10,954	\$	5,134	
Deduct: Total stock-based compensation expense determined under fair value based method, net of income taxes		287		349		861		1,186	
Net income available to common stockholders, pro forma	\$	385	\$	219	\$	10,093	\$	3,948	
Basic income per common share:									
As reported	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.45	\$	0.21	
Pro forma	\$	0.02	\$	0.01	\$	0.42	\$	0.16	
Diluted income per common share:									
As reported	\$	0.03	\$	0.02	\$	0.45	\$	0.20	
Pro forma	\$	0.02	\$	0.01	\$	0.41	\$	0.16	
	13								

#### 12. SEGMENT REPORTING

SFAS No. 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information*, establishes standards for reporting information about operating segments in financial statements. In general, SFAS No. 131 requires that business entities report selected information about operating segments in a manner consistent with that used for internal management reporting. Effective November 1, 2004 the Eastern region was divided into the North Eastern and South Eastern regions because of a change in the Company's internal reporting structure. Therefore, segment data for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2005 has been revised to reflect changes in the Company's segment classifications.

The Company classifies its operations into North Eastern, South Eastern, Central, Western and FCR Recycling. The Company's revenues in the North Eastern, South Eastern, Central and Western segments are derived mainly from one industry segment, which includes the collection, transfer, recycling and disposal of non-hazardous solid waste. The North Eastern region also includes Maine Energy, which generates electricity from non-hazardous solid waste. The Company's revenues in the FCR Recycling segment are derived from integrated waste handling services, including processing and recycling of wood, paper, metals, aluminum, plastics and glass. In June 2003 the Company transferred its domestic brokerage operation and a commercial recycling business to former employees who had managed those businesses. Included in "Other" are ancillary operations, mainly major customer accounts and earnings from equity method investees.

	No	North Eastern Region		South Eastern Region		Central Region	Western Region	R	FCR ecycling
Three Months Ended January 31, 2004									
Outside Revenues	\$	20,256	\$	19,734	\$	23,524	\$ 17,947	\$	18,535
Inter-segment Revenues		5,679		5,758		11,164	3,980		172
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in									
accounting principle		734		(3,294)		3,567	(148)		1,517
Total Assets	\$	150,614	\$	119,460	\$	114,938	\$ 118,214	\$	65,515

	Other		Eliminations	Total
Three Months Ended January 31, 2004		_		
Outside Revenues	\$ 4,148	\$	—	\$ 104,144
Inter-segment Revenues	—		(26,753)	_
Income from continuing operations before discontinued				
operations and cumulative effect of change in				
accounting principle	(890)			1,486
Total Assets	\$ 82,483	\$	_	\$ 651,224

	No	rth Eastern Region	South Eastern Region	Central Region		Western Region	R	FCR ecycling
Three Months Ended January 31, 2005	-				_		_	
Outside Revenues	\$	23,099 \$	20,110	\$ 25,638	\$	22,093	\$	21,254
Inter-segment Revenues		5,504	6,264	12,575		5,256		120
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in								
accounting principle		(115)	(5,391)	3,889		415		2,825
Total Assets	\$	173,840 \$	132,618	\$ 123,937	\$	146,372	\$	55,291

	Other		Eliminations	Total
Three Months Ended January 31, 2005		_		
Outside Revenues	\$ 3,886	\$		\$ 116,080
Inter-segment Revenues	3		(29,722)	_
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in				
accounting principle	(226)		—	1,397
Total Assets	\$ 71,830	\$	—	\$ 703,888
	1	5		

	Ν	North Eastern Region		South Eastern Region	Central Region		Western Region		R	FCR ecycling
Nine Months Ended January 31, 2004					_					
Outside Revenues	\$	63,573	\$	63,929	\$	76,372	\$	57,374	\$	55,924
Inter-segment Revenues		19,325		18,677		36,864		11,583		1,074
Income from continuing operations before discontinued										
operations and cumulative effect of change in										
accounting principle		4,205		(9,287)		14,512		1,284		2,472
Total Assets	\$	150,614	\$	119,460	\$	114,938	\$	118,214	\$	65,515

	Other	Eliminations	Total
Nine Months Ended January 31, 2004			
Outside Revenues	\$ 12,759	\$ (790)	\$ 329,141
Inter-segment Revenues	2,394	(89,917)	_
Income from continuing operations before discontinued			
operations and cumulative effect of change in			
accounting principle	(2,532)		10,654
Total Assets	\$ 82,483	\$ 	\$ 651,224

	N	orth Eastern Region	South Eastern Central Region Region			Western Region			FCR Recycling
Nine Months Ended January 31, 2005									
Outside Revenues	\$	70,309 \$	68,600	\$	83,472	\$	70,775	\$	61,100
Inter-segment Revenues		18,600	22,690		41,234		16,127		378
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in									
accounting principle		423	(13,812)		16,088		4,078		7,509
Total Assets	\$	173,840 \$	132,618	\$	123,937	\$	146,372	\$	55,291

	Other		Eliminations	Total
Nine Months Ended January 31, 2005				
Outside Revenues	\$ 11,877	\$	_	\$ 366,133
Inter-segment Revenues	3		(99,032)	_
Income from continuing operations before discontinued				
operations and cumulative effect of change in				
accounting principle	(6,643)		_	7,643
Total Assets	\$ 71,830	\$	—	\$ 703,888
	1	6		

Amounts of the Company's total revenue attributable to services provided are as follows:

	Three Mo Janua	 		Nine Mon Janua	ths En ry 31,	
	 2004(1)	2005	_	2004(1)		2005
Collection	\$ 53,863	\$ 56,578	\$	172,064	\$	180,424
Landfill/disposal						
facilities	16,926	18,779		52,302		61,304
Transfer	8,383	9,570		29,681		32,686
Recycling	24,972	31,153		71,799		91,719
Brokerage		—		3,295		
Total revenues	\$ 104,144	\$ 116,080	\$	329,141	\$	366,133

<sup>(1)</sup> Revenue attributable to services provided for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 has been revised to conform with the classification of revenue attributable to services provided in the current fiscal year.

#### 13. NET ASSETS UNDER CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION

Effective June 30, 2003, the Company transferred its domestic brokerage operations as well as a commercial recycling business to former employees who had been responsible for managing those businesses. Consideration for the transaction was in the form of two notes receivable amounting up to \$6,925. These notes are payable within twelve years of the anniversary date of the transaction to the extent of free cash flow generated from the operations.

The Company has not accounted for this transaction as a sale based on an assessment that the risks and other incidents of ownership have not sufficiently transferred to the buyer. The net assets of the operations are disclosed in the balance sheet as "net assets under contractual obligation", and are being reduced as payments are made.

Net assets under contractual obligation amounted to \$2,148 and \$1,406 at April 30, 2004 and January 31, 2005, respectively.

#### 14. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Company's senior subordinated notes due 2013 are guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by the Company's significant whollyowned subsidiaries. The Company is the issuer and non-guarantor of the senior subordinated notes. The information which follows presents the condensed consolidating financial position as of April 30, 2004 and January 31, 2005, and the condensed consolidating results of operations for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 and the condensed consolidating statements of cash flows for the nine months ended January 31, 2004 and 2005 of (a) the parent company only ("the Parent"), (b) the combined guarantors ("the Guarantors"), each of which is 100% wholly-owned by the Parent, (c) the combined non-guarantors ("the Non-Guarantors"), (d) eliminating entries and (e) the Company on a consolidated basis.

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET AS OF APRIL 30, 2004 (In thousands, except for share and per share data)

					Non-			
		Parent		Guarantors	Guarantors	Elimination		Consolidated
ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS:								
CORRENT ASSETS: Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,794	¢	5,815	\$ 398	\$ —	¢	8,007
Accounts receivable - trade, net of allowance for doubtful accounts	ψ	83	φ	48,096	1,283	\$	φ	49,462
Prepaid expenses		1,504		3,457	1,205	(797)		4,164
Other current assets		5,436		2,494	13,247	(,,,)		21,177
Total current assets		8,817		59,862	14,928	(797)		82,810
						, ,		
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and								
amortization		2,764		367,589	1,685	—		372,038
Intangible assets, net				157,230	_	_		157,230
Deferred income taxes		5,631		—				5,631
Investment in subsidiaries		(35,115)			_	35,115		27.014
Investments in unconsolidated entities		13,105		29,188		(4,379)		37,914
Assets under contractual obligation		11.040		2,148	120			2,148
Other non-current assets		11,849		6,537	120	20.72(		18,506
		(1,766)		562,692	1,805	30,736		593,467
Intercompany receivable		559,165		(561,476)	(2,069)	4,380		
	\$	566,216	\$	61,078	\$ 14,664	\$ 34,319	\$	676,277
				i	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY								
CURRENT LIABILITIES:								
Current maturities of long term debt	\$	1,500	\$	1,942	\$ 2,100	\$	\$	5,542
Accounts payable		1,780		37,516	738			40,034
Accrued interest		6,022		2				6,024
Accrued closure and post-closure costs, current portion		—		1,928	543	—		2,471
Other current liabilities		4,787		18,354	10,956	(797)		33,300
Total current liabilities		14,089		59,742	14,337	(797)		87,371
Long-term debt, less current maturities		347,957		1,206				349,163
Capital lease obligations, less current maturities		547,557		1,367		_		1,367
Accrued closure and post closure costs, less current portion				21,453	1,299			22,752
Other long-term liabilities		7,039		10,040	1,414	_		18,493
		.,		,	-,			,.,-
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES								
Series A redeemable, convertible preferred stock, 55,750 shares authorized,								
issued and outstanding, liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share plus								
accrued but unpaid dividends		67,076		—				67,076
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:								
Class A common stock -								
Authorized - 100,000,000 shares, \$0.01 par value; issued and outstanding - 23,496,000 shares		235		101	100	(201)		235
Class B common stock -		235		101	100	(201)		255
Authorized - 1,000,000 shares, \$0.01 par value, 10 votes per share,								
issued and outstanding - 988,000 shares		10			_	_		10
Accumulated other comprehensive income		408		1,933	_	(1,933)		408
Additional paid-in capital		272,993		48,270	2,595	(50,865)		272,993
Accumulated deficit		(143,591)		(83,034)				(143,591)
Total stockholders' equity		130,055		(32,730)	(2,386)			130,055
* •		,		(- ,,)				,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	\$	566,216	\$	61,078	\$ 14,664	\$ 34,319	\$	676,277
		18						
		10						

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET AS OF JANUARY 31, 2005 (Unaudited) (In thousands, except for share and per share data)

		Parent		Guarantors		Non- Guarantors	]	Elimination	Со	onsolidated
ASSETS										
CURRENT ASSETS:										
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	(3,562)	\$	10,008	\$	915	\$	—	\$	7,361
Other current assets		8,782		52,273		14,720				75,775
Total current assets		5,220		62,281		15,635		—		83,136
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and										
amortization		2,715		401,059		(826)		_		402,948
Intangible assets, net				160,492		_		_		160,492
Investment in subsidiaries		(20,052)		_				20,052		_
Assets under contractual obligation				1,406						1,406
Other non-current assets		24,038		36,127		120		(4,379)		55,906
		6,701	_	599,084	_	(706)		15,673		620,752
Intercompany receivable		588,677		(590,648)		(2,408)		4,379		_
		588,077		(570,048)				-,,,,,		
	\$	600,598	\$	70,717	\$	12,521	\$	20,052	\$	703,888
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY										
CURRENT LIABILITIES:										
Current maturities of long term debt	\$	1,500	\$	344	\$	1,541	\$		\$	3,385
Accrued interest	Ψ	10,492	Ψ	91	Ψ	1,5 11	Ψ	_	Ψ	10,583
Accrued closure and post-closure costs, current portion		10,492		4,797		588				5,385
Other current liabilities		8,267		49,653		12,425				70,345
Total current liabilities		20,259	-	54,885	_	14,554				89.698
		20,239		54,885		14,554				89,098
Long-term debt, less current maturities		365,087		593				_		365,680
Other long-term liabilities		8,085		29,785		3,473		—		41,343
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES										
Series A redeemable, convertible preferred stock, 53,750 shares authorized,										
issued and outstanding, liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share plus										
accrued but unpaid dividends		67,125		—		—		—		67,125
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:										
Class A common stock -										
Authorized - 100,000,000 shares, \$0.01 par value; issued and										
outstanding - 23,857,000 shares		239		101		100		(201)		239
Class B common stock -		20)		101		100		(201)		20)
Authorized - 1,000,000 shares, \$0.01 par value, 10 votes per share,										
issued and outstanding - 988,000 shares		10								10
Accumulated other comprehensive income		868		1.632				(1,632)		868
Additional paid-in capital		274,883		48,463		2,581		(51,044)		274.883
Accumulated deficit		(135,958)		(64,742)		(8,187)		72,929		(135,958)
Total stockholders' equity		140.042	_	(14,546)	_	(5,506)		20,052		140.042
		140,042	-	(14,346)	_	(3,306)	_	20,032		140,042
	\$	600,598	\$	70,717	\$	12,521	\$	20,052	\$	703,888
		19								

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS THREE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2004 (Unaudited) (In thousands)

	Parent	Guarantors	Non - Guarantors	Elimination	Consolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ 102,439	\$ 3,937	\$ (2,232)	\$ 104,144
Operating expenses:					
Cost of operations	364	66,749	2,659	(2,232)	67,540
General and administration	770	13,662	215		14,647
Depreciation and amortization	454	12,725	1,416	—	14,595
	1,588	93,136	4,290	(2,232)	96,782
Operating income (loss)	(1,588)	9,303	(353)		7,362
Other expense/(income), net:					
Interest income	(6,024)	(345)	(24)	6,340	(53)
Interest expense	6,315	6,276	43	(6,340)	6,294
Income from equity method investments	(4,346)	(1,171)	—	4,346	(1,171)
Other income	(165)	(154)	(24)		(343)
Other expense, net	(4,220)	4,606	(5)	4,346	4,727
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes and					
discontinued operations	2.632	4,697	(348)	(4,346)	2,635
Provision for income taxes	1,142	(4)	· · · ·		1,149
					<u> </u>
Income (loss) from continuing operations before discontinued					
operations	1,490	4,701	(359)	(4,346)	1,486
Income from discontinued operations, net		4			4
Net income (loss)	1,490	4,705	(359)	(4,346)	1,490
Preferred stock dividend	818	—		_	818
Net income (loss) available to common stockholders	\$ 672	\$ 4,705	\$ (359)	\$ (4,346)	\$ 672

### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS THREE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2005 (Unaudited) (In thousands)

tno	us	а	n	a	5)

	]	Parent	G	Guarantors	G	Non - uarantors	E	limination	Consolidated
Revenues	\$	—	\$	115,180	\$	3,186	\$	(2,286) \$	116,080
Operating expenses:									
Cost of operations		(97)		76,649		2,470		(2,286)	76,736
General and administration		168		15,102		233		_	15,503
Depreciation and amortization		395		14,382		1,494		—	16,271
		466		106,133		4,197		(2,286)	108,510
Operating income (loss)		(466)		9,047		(1,011)		_	7,570
Other expense/(income), net:									
Interest income				(7,446)		(100)		7,415	(131)
Interest expense		369		14,395		31		(7,415)	7,380
(Income) loss from equity method investments		(2,915)		(1,556)		—		2,915	(1,556)
Other expense, net:		(411)		(231)					(642)
Other expense/(income), net		(2,957)		5,162		(69)		2,915	5,051
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes		2,491		3,885		(942)		(2,915)	2,519
Provision for income taxes		1,094				28			1,122
Not in some (lass)		1 207		2 0 0 5		(970)		(2.015)	1,397
Net income (loss) Preferred stock dividend		1,397 829		3,885		(970)		(2,915)	829
Net income (loss) available to common stockholders	\$	568	\$	3,885	\$	(970)	\$	(2,915) \$	568

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS NINE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2004 (Unaudited) (In thousands)

	 Parent	 Guarantors	G	Non - uarantors		Elimination	C	onsolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ 323,484	\$	12,637	\$	(6,980)	\$	329,141
Operating expenses:								
Cost of operations	573	210,537		9,057		(6,980)		213,187
General and administration	977	42,045		783		—		43,805
Depreciation and amortization	1,381	 38,325		4,593				44,299
	 2,931	 290,907		14,433		(6,980)		301,291
Operating income (loss)	 (2,931)	 32,577		(1,796)				27,850
Other and (in a ma) and								
Other expense/(income), net: Interest income	(17,908)	(1,023)		(73)		18,812		(192)
	18,783	18.425		155		(18,812)		18,551
Interest expense Income from equity method investments	(18,609)	(2,069)		155		18,609		· · · · ·
Other income	(18,009)	(466)		(78)		18,009		(2,069) (721)
Other expense, net	 (17,911)	 14,867		4		18.609		15,569
Other expense, het	 (17,911)	 14,007		4		18,009		15,509
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes								
and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	14,980	17,710		(1,800)		(18,609)		12,281
Provision for income taxes	 1,603	 (5)		29				1,627
Income (loss) from continuing operations before cumulative								
effect of change in accounting principle	13,377	17,715		(1,829)		(18,609)		10,654
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net		2,518		205		(10,007)		2,723
Net income (loss)	 13,377	 20,233		(1,624)	_	(18,609)		13,377
Preferred stock dividend	2,423			(1,021)		(13,007)		2,423
Net income (loss) available to common stockholders	\$ 10,954	\$ 20,233	\$	(1,624)	\$	(18,609)	\$	10,954

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS NINE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2005 (Unaudited) (In thousands)

	 Parent	 Guarantors		on - rantors	F	Elimination	Co	nsolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ 362,408	\$	11,224	\$	(7,499)	\$	366,133
Operating expenses:								
Cost of operations	(195)	233,729		8,364		(7,499)		234,399
General and administration	202	46,409		778				47,389
Depreciation and amortization	1,251	44,569		5,248				51,068
Impairment charge		295						295
	 1,258	 325,002	-	14,390		(7,499)		333,151
Operating income (loss)	 (1,258)	 37,406		(3,166)				32,982
Other expense/(income), net:								
Interest income	(4)	(21,692)		(231)		21,626		(301)
Interest expense	1,204	42,195		105		(21,626)		21,878
(Income) loss from equity method investments	(15,813)	(2,483)		_		15,813		(2,483)
Other expense/(income), net:	 (347)	 458		(2)				109
Other expense/(income), net	 (14,960)	 18,478		(128)		15,813		19,203
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes								
and discontinued operations	13,702	18,928		(3,038)		(15,813)		13,779
Provision for income taxes	 6,069	 		67				6,136
Income (loss) from continuing operations before discontinued								
operations	7,633	18,928		(3,105)		(15,813)		7,643
Discontinued energetic new								
Discontinued operations:		140						140
Income from discontinued operations, net				_				
Loss on disposal of discontinued operations, net Net income (loss)	 7 (22	 (150)		(2.105)		(15.912)		(150)
Net mcome (1088)	7,633	18,918		(3,105)		(15,813)		7,633

Preferred stock dividend	2,499		_		2,499
Net income (loss) available to common stockholders	\$ 5,134	\$ 18,918	\$ (3,105)	\$ (15,813)	\$ 5,134

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS NINE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2004 (Unaudited) (In thousands)

	 Parent		Guarantors	Non- Guarantors		Elimination	C	onsolidated
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ (613)	\$	43,625	\$ 2,771	\$	G —	\$	45,783
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:								
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	—		(31,889)		-	—		(31,889)
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(986)		(35,330)	(1,126	)			(37,442)
Payments under landfill operating lease contracts	—		(4,305)		-	—		(4,305)
Advances to unconsolidated entities	(7,074)		—		-			(7,074)
Other	—		966		-	—		966
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities	 (8,060)	_	(70,558)	(1,126	) –	_		(79,744)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:	 	_				<u> </u>		
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	124,828		—		-			124,828
Principal payments on long-term debt	(98,740)		(1,248)	(945	)	—		(100,933)
Intercompany borrowings	(35,058)		35,744	(686	)			
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	 3,709				-			3,709
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	(5,261)		34,496	(1,631	)	_		27,604
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	 (13,934)	_	7,563	14	. –	_		(6,357)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	12,188		2,686	778				15,652
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ (1,746)	\$	10,249	\$ 792	\$	S —	\$	9,295

#### CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATING STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS NINE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 31, 2005 (Unaudited) (In thousands)

						Non-				
		Parent	(	Guarantors	G	uarantors	E	limination	С	onsolidated
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	4,475	\$	54.104	\$	3,489	\$		\$	62,068
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	Ψ	1,175	Ψ	51,101	Ψ	5,105	Ψ		Ψ	02,000
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired		_		(6,486)		_		—		(6,486)
Additions to property, plant and equipment		(1,202)		(52,215)		(2,737)				(56,154)
Payments on landfill operating lease contracts		—		(19,790)						(19,790)
Proceeds from divestitures		—		3,050						3,050
Other				1,839						1,839
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities		(1,202)		(73,602)		(2,737)				(77,541)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:										
Proceeds from long-term borrowings		120,350								120,350
Principal payments on long-term debt		(103,397)		(2,759)		(989)				(107,145)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options		1,622		_		_				1,622
Intercompany borrowings		(33,215)		32,461		754				
Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities		(14,640)		29,702		(235)				14,827
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(11,367)		10,204		517				(646)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		7,805		(196)		398		_		8,007
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	(3,562)	\$	10,008	\$	915	\$	_	\$	7,361

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

Casella Waste Systems, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the "Company") is a vertically integrated regional solid waste services company that provides collection, transfer, disposal and recycling services to residential, industrial and commercial customers, primarily throughout the eastern region of the United States. As of February 28, 2005, the Company owned and/or operated eight Subtitle D landfills, two landfills permitted to accept construction and demolition materials, 38 solid waste collection operations, 34 transfer stations, 38 recycling facilities and one waste-to-energy facility, as well as a 50% interest in a joint venture that manufactures, markets and sells cellulose insulation made from recycled fiber.

The Company's revenues increased from \$104.1 million for the quarter ended January 31, 2004 to \$116.1 million for the quarter ended January 31, 2005. From May 1, 2003 through April 30, 2004, the Company acquired eleven solid waste collection, transfer, disposal and recycling operations. Between May 1, 2004 and January 31, 2005 the Company acquired seven solid waste hauling operations. Under the rules of purchase accounting, the acquired companies' revenues and results of operations have been included from the date of acquisition and affect the period-to-period comparisons of the Company's historical results of operations. Effective September 30, 2002, the Company transferred its export brokerage operations to former employees, who had been responsible for managing that business. The domestic brokerage operations, and a recycling business, constituting the remainder of the Company's brokerage revenues, were transferred effective June 30, 2003 to the employees of that unit. Due to the structure of these transactions, the transfers were not initially recorded as a sale. Effective April 1, 2004, the Company completed the sale of the export brokerage operations for total consideration of approximately \$5.0 million. The gain on the sale amounted to approximately \$1.1 million. For the nine months ended January 31, 2004, the transferred domestic brokerage and recycling businesses accounted for \$3.3 million of the Company's revenues.

#### **Forward Looking Statements**

This Form 10-Q and other reports, proxy statements, and other communications to stockholders, as well as oral statements by the Company's officers or its agents, may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act, with respect to, among other things, the Company's future revenues, operating income, or earnings per share. Without limiting the foregoing, any statements contained in this Form 10-Q that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements, and the words "believes", "anticipates", "plans", "expects", and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors of which the Company is aware that may cause the Company's actual results to vary materially from those forecasted or projected in any such forward-looking statement, certain of which are beyond the Company's control. These factors include, without limitation, those outlined below in the section entitled "Certain Factors That May Affect Future Results". The Company's failure to successfully address any of these factors could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations.

#### General

#### Revenues

The Company's revenues in the North Eastern, South Eastern, Central and Western regions are primarily attributable to fees charged to customers for solid waste disposal and collection, landfill, waste-to-energy, transfer and recycling services. The Company derives a substantial portion of its collection revenues from commercial, industrial and municipal services that are generally performed under service agreements or pursuant to contracts with municipalities. The majority of residential collection services are performed on a subscription basis with individual households. Landfill, waste-to-energy facility and transfer customers are charged a tipping fee on a per ton basis for disposing of their solid waste at disposal facilities and transfer

stations. The majority of the Company's disposal and transfer customers are under one to ten year disposal contracts, with most having clauses for annual cost of living increases. Recycling revenues, which are included in FCR Recycling and in the North Eastern, South Eastern, Central and Western regions, consist of revenues from the sale of recyclable commodities and providing services under operations and maintenance contracts of recycling facilities for municipal customers. FCR Recycling revenues included revenues from commercial brokerage and recycling operations through June 30, 2003, when those operations were sold.

In "Other", the Company has ancillary revenues including major customer accounts and earnings from equity method investees. The Company's cellulose insulation business is conducted through a 50/50 joint venture with Louisiana-Pacific, and accordingly, the Company recognizes half of the joint venture's net income on the equity method in its results of operations.

The Company's revenues are shown net of inter-company eliminations. The Company typically establishes its inter-company transfer pricing based upon prevailing market rates. The table below shows, for the periods indicated, the percentage of our revenues attributable to services provided. For the nine months ended January 31, 2004, the percentages of revenues shown below reflect revenues from the domestic brokerage and recycling operations through June 30, 2003. The domestic brokerage operation was transferred effective June 30, 2003 to the employees of that unit. Collection revenues as a percentage of total revenue in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 were lower compared to the prior year, despite an increase in the absolute dollar amounts, mainly because of the large increase in recycling revenue dollars. Landfill/disposal revenues as a percentage of total revenues in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 due to the incremental volumes associated with recently acquired landfill facilities. The increase in the quarter and nine months ended January 31, 2005 in recycling revenues as a percentage of total revenues is mainly due to higher commodity prices. The decrease in brokerage revenues as a percentage of revenues in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 is due to the transfer of the domestic brokerage business to employees of that unit.

	Three Months January 3		Nine Months January 3			
	2004(1)	2005	2004(1)	2005		
Collection	51.7%	48.8%	52.3%	49.3%		
Landfill/disposal facilities	16.3	16.2	15.9	16.7		
Transfer	8.0	8.2	9.0	8.9		
Recycling	24.0	26.8	21.8	25.1		
Brokerage	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0		
Total revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

(1) Percentage of revenues attributable to services provided for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2004 have been revised to conform with the classification of revenue attributable to services provided in the current fiscal year.

#### **Operating Expenses**

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

General and administration expenses include management, clerical and administrative compensation and overhead, professional services and costs associated with marketing, sales force and community relations efforts.

Depreciation and amortization expense includes depreciation of fixed assets over the estimated useful life of the assets using the straight-line method, amortization of landfill airspace assets under the units-of-production method, and the amortization of intangible assets (other than goodwill) using the straight-line

method. Effective May 1, 2003, the Company adopted SFAS No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations*. Under SFAS No. 143, except for accretion expense, the Company no longer accrues for landfill retirement obligations through a charge to cost of operations, but rather as an increase to landfill assets which are amortized using a straight-line rate per ton as landfill airspace is utilized. The amount of landfill amortization expense related to airspace consumption can vary materially from landfill to landfill depending upon the purchase price and landfill site and cell development costs. The Company depreciates all fixed and intangible assets, other than goodwill, to a zero net book value, and does not apply a salvage value to any fixed assets.

The Company capitalizes certain direct landfill development costs, such as engineering, permitting, legal, construction and other costs associated directly with the expansion of existing landfills. Additionally, the Company also capitalizes certain third party expenditures related to pending acquisitions, such as legal and engineering costs. The Company routinely evaluates all such capitalized costs, and expenses those costs related to projects not likely to be successful. Internal and indirect landfill development and acquisition costs, such as executive and corporate overhead, public relations and other corporate services, are expensed as incurred.

The Company will have material financial obligations relating to capping, closure and post-closure costs of our existing landfills and any disposal facilities which the Company may own or operate in the future. The Company has provided and will in the future provide accruals for these future financial obligations based on engineering estimates of consumption of permitted landfill airspace over the useful life of any such landfill. There can be no assurance that our financial obligations for capping, closure or post-closure costs will not exceed the amount accrued and reserved or amounts otherwise receivable pursuant to trust funds.

#### **Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated the percentage relationship that certain items from the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements bear in relation to revenues.

	Three Months Ended January 31,		Nine Months January	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of operations	64.8	66.1	64.8	64.0
General and administration	14.1	13.4	13.3	12.9
Depreciation and amortization	14.0	14.0	13.4	14.0
Deferred costs			_	0.1
Operating income	7.1	6.5	8.5	9.0
Interest expense, net	6.0	6.2	5.6	5.9
Income from equity method investments	(1.1)	(1.3)	(0.6)	(0.7)
Other expense/(income), net	(0.3)	(0.6)	(0.2)	_
Provision for income taxes	1.1	1.0	0.5	1.7
Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	1.4%	1.2%	3.2%	2.1%

#### Three Months Ended January 31, 2005 versus January 31, 2004

Revenues. Revenues increased \$12.0 million, or 11.5% to \$116.1 million in the quarter ended January 31,

2005 from \$104.1 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2004. The revenue increase in the quarter is attributable to an increase in solid waste revenues of \$4.6 million, due primarily to higher hauling and transfer volumes in the Central Region and higher composting volumes in the North Eastern region. Higher commodity prices resulted in an increase in recycling revenues of \$3.1 million. Revenues from the rollover effect of acquired businesses accounted for \$4.3 million in the quarter primarily due to new disposal facilities in the Western and South Eastern regions (the Ontario and Southbridge landfills), which became active in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004, respectively.

*Cost of operations.* Cost of operations increased \$9.2 million or 13.6% to \$76.7 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from \$67.5 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2004. As a percentage of revenues, cost of operations increased to 66.1% in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 compared to 64.8% in the prior year period. The dollar and percentage increase in cost of operations expense is due to higher insurance costs resulting from a serious accident, higher fuel costs as well as higher cost of commodity purchases due to higher prices. Higher composting volumes in the North Eastern region also led to higher transportation costs. Partially offsetting these factors was the effect of lower disposal costs as a percentage of revenue resulting from the impact of the opening of new disposal capacity.

*General and administration*. General and administration expenses increased \$0.8 million, or 5.4% to \$15.5 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from \$14.7 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2004, and decreased as a percentage of revenues to 13.4% in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from 14.1% in the prior year comparable period. The dollar increase in general and administration expense was due to higher bonus accruals as well as expenses related to compliance with the Sarbanes Oxley Act. The reduction in general and administration expense as a percentage of revenue can be attributed to the acquisition of new disposal facilities which have lower general and administrative costs as a percentage of revenue.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$1.7 million, or 11.6%, to \$16.3 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from \$14.6 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2004. Depreciation expense was up \$0.3 million between periods and landfill amortization expense increased \$1.4 million which was primarily due to higher volumes in part related to new disposal facilities which became active in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004. Depreciation and amortization expense as a percentage of revenue remained constant at 14.0% for the quarters ended January 31, 2005 and 2004.

*Operating income.* Operating income was largely unchanged in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from the quarter ended January 31, 2004. Higher revenues were offset by higher operating costs as described above.

*Interest expense, net.* Net interest expense increased \$1.0 million, or 16.1% to \$7.2 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from \$6.2 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2004. This increase is attributable to higher average interest rates in the current fiscal quarter compared to the prior year period. Net interest expense, as a percentage of revenues, increased to 6.2% in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from 6.0% in the quarter ended January 31, 2004.

*Income from equity method investment.* Income of \$1.6 million and \$1.2 million for the quarters ended January 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, was solely from our 50% joint venture interest in U.S. Green Fiber ("GreenFiber"). The increase in the current quarter was mainly due to price increases.

*Other expense/(income), net.* Other income in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 was \$0.6 million compared to other income of \$0.3 million in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 consisted of a dividend received from our investment in Evergreen National Indemnity Company ("Evergreen") of \$0.4 million and gains on the sale of equipment. Other income in the quarter ended January 31, 2004 was mainly due to a gain on sale of equipment.

Provision for income taxes. Provision for income taxes remained constant at \$1.1 million for the quarters

ended January 31, 2005 and 2004. The effective tax rate increased slightly to 44.5% in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from 43.6% in the quarter ended January 31, 2004.

Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle. Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle was largely unchanged in the quarter ended January 31, 2005 from the quarter ended January 31, 2004. Higher interest expense was offset by higher equity income from equity method investments as well as increased other income as described above.

*Income from discontinued operations/Loss on disposal of discontinued operations.* In the second quarter of fiscal 2005, the Company completed the sale of the assets of Data Destruction for cash sale proceeds of \$3.0 million. This shredding operation had been historically accounted for as a component of continuing operations up until its sale. The business' historical income (loss) from operations has been reclassified from continuing operations to discontinued operations for the quarters ended January 31, 2005 and 2004. Also in connection with the discontinued accounting treatment, the loss (net of tax) from the sale has been recorded and classified as a loss on disposal of discontinued operations.

#### Nine Months Ended January 31, 2005 versus January 31, 2004

*Revenues.* Revenues increased \$37.0 million, or 11.2% to \$366.1 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$329.1 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. The revenue increase is attributable to an increase in solid waste revenues of \$9.7 million, due primarily to higher hauling and transfer volumes in the Central Region and higher composting volumes in the North Eastern region. Higher commodity prices resulted in an increase in recycling revenues of \$10.2 million. Revenues from the rollover effect of acquired businesses accounted for \$20.4 million, primarily due to new disposal facilities in the Western and South Eastern regions (the Ontario and Southbridge landfills), as well as a new recycling facility in the South Eastern region, all of which became active in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004, partially offset by the loss of revenues from the divestiture of the domestic brokerage business amounting to \$3.3 million.

*Cost of operations.* Cost of operations increased \$21.2 million or 9.9% to \$234.4 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$213.2 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. Cost of operations as a percentage of revenues decreased to 64.0% in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 64.8% in the prior year primarily due to the effect of lower disposal costs as a percentage of revenue from the impact of the activation of new disposal capacity. The dollar increase in cost of operations expenses in the nine-month period is primarily due to the effect of acquired businesses, higher cost of commodity purchases due to higher prices as well as higher fuel and insurance costs.

*General and administration.* General and administration expenses increased \$3.6 million, or 8.2% to \$47.4 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$43.8 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004, and decreased as a percentage of revenues to 12.9% in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 13.3% in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. The dollar increase in general and administration expense was due to higher bonus accruals, communications and training costs as well as expenses related to compliance with the Sarbanes Oxley Act. The reduction in general and administrative costs as a percentage of revenue can be attributed to the acquisition of new disposal facilities which have lower general and administrative costs as a percentage of revenue.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$6.8 million, or 15.3%, to \$51.1 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$44.3 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. While depreciation expense increased by \$1.4 million between periods, landfill amortization expense increased by \$5.3 million which was primarily due to higher volumes in part related to new disposal facilities which became active in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004. Depreciation and



amortization expense as a percentage of revenues increased to 14.0% for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 13.4% for the nine months ended January 31, 2004 which resulted from the increase in landfill amortization expense.

Deferred costs. A charge of \$0.3 million was recorded in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 to reflect the write-off of deferred development costs associated with unsuccessful negotiations to operate and develop a landfill located in McKean County, Pennsylvania.

*Operating income.* Operating income increased \$5.1 million, or 18.3%, to \$33.0 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$27.9 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 and increased as a percentage of revenues to 9.0% in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 8.5% in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. The increase in operating income is primarily due to higher levels of revenue.

*Interest expense, net.* Net interest expense increased \$3.2 million, or 17.4% to \$21.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$18.4 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. This increase is mainly attributable to higher average debt balances due to higher capital expenditures and payments on landfill operating lease contracts as well as higher average interest rates in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 compared to the prior year period. Net interest expense, as a percentage of revenues, increased to 5.9% for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 5.6% for the nine months ended January 31, 2004.

Income from equity method investment. Income of \$2.5 million and \$2.1 million for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 and 2004 was solely from our 50% joint venture interest in GreenFiber.

*Other expense/(income), net.* Other expense in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 was \$0.1 million compared to other income of \$0.7 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005. Consisted of the costs of winding down the operations of the New Heights power plant and a loss on retirement of fixed assets, partially offset by gains on the sale of equipment and the dividend from Evergreen. Other income of \$0.7 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 consisted primarily of gains on sales of equipment.

*Provision for income taxes.* Provision for income taxes increased \$4.5 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 to \$6.1 million from \$1.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 to \$6.1 million from \$1.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 to \$6.1 million from \$1.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 to \$6.1 million from \$1.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. The effective tax rate increased to 44.5% in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 13.3% in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 primarily due to a prior year decrease in the valuation for loss carryforwards of \$3.9 million as utilization of the Company's tax losses became more certain.

*Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle.* Income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle decreased \$3.0 million, or 28.3%, to \$7.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from \$10.6 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 and decreased as a percentage of revenue to 2.1% in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from 3.2% in the nine months ended January 31, 2004. The decrease in income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle is due to increase in income from continuing operations before effective tax rate. North Eastern and South Eastern region's income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle decreased in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 from the nine months ended January 31, 2004 due primarily to higher costs associated with new disposal facility projects, one of which is not yet fully operational. Western region's income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle increased from the prior period due to the acquisition of an operating contract at the Ontario landfill. FCR Recycling's income from continuing operations before discontinued operations and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle increased in the nine months ended January 31, 2005



from the nine months ended January 31, 2004 due primarily to favorable commodity pricing.

*Income from discontinued operations/Loss on disposal of discontinued operations.* In the second quarter of fiscal 2005, the Company completed the sale of the assets of Data Destruction for cash sale proceeds of \$3.0 million. This shredding operation had been historically accounted for as a component of continuing operations up until its sale. The business' historical income (loss) from operations has been reclassified from continuing operations to discontinued operations for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 and 2004. Also in connection with the discontinued accounting treatment, the loss (net of tax) from the sale has been recorded and classified as a loss on disposal of discontinued operations.

*Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net.* Effective May 1, 2003, the Company adopted SFAS No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations.* The primary modification to the Company's methodology required by SFAS No. 143 is to require that capping, closure and post-closure costs be discounted to present value. Upon adoption of SFAS No. 143 the Company recorded a cumulative effect of change in accounting principle of \$2.7 million (net of taxes of \$1.9 million) in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 in order to reflect the cumulative change in accounting for landfill obligations retroactive to the date of the inception of the respective landfills.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's business is capital intensive. The Company's capital requirements include acquisitions, fixed asset purchases and capital expenditures for landfill development and cell construction, as well as site and cell closure. The Company had a net working capital deficit of \$13.9 million at January 31, 2005 compared to a net working capital deficit of \$12.6 million at April 30, 2004. Net working capital comprises current assets, excluding cash and cash equivalents, minus current liabilities. The main factor accounting for the working capital decrease was higher accrued interest on the Company's senior subordinated notes which was payable on February 1, 2005. Also contributing to the working capital deficit were higher current accruals for capping, closure and post-closure costs. Partially offsetting this were lower trade payable balances which can be attributed to general seasonality of the business.

The Company has a \$322.0 million credit facility with a group of banks for which Bank of America, N.A. is acting as agent. This credit facility consists of a \$175.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility and a senior secured term "B" loan, which had an outstanding balance of \$147.0 million at January 31, 2005. The Company has the right to increase the amount of the revolver and/or the term loan by an aggregate amount of up to \$50.0 million at the Company's discretion, provided that the Company is not in default at the time of the increase, and subject to the receipt of commitments from lenders for such additional amount.

The term loan and revolving credit facility agreement contains covenants that may limit our activities, including covenants that restrict dividends and stock repurchases, limit capital expenditures, and set minimum net worth and profitability requirements and interest coverage and leverage ratios. As of January 31, 2005, the Company considered the profitability covenant, which requires our cumulative adjusted net income for any two consecutive quarters to be positive, to be the most restrictive. As of January 31, 2005, the Company was in compliance with this and all other covenants. Consolidated adjusted net income is defined by the credit facility agreement. In accordance with this definition, consolidated net income, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, is adjusted for elimination of certain nonrecurring charges, extraordinary gains, income from discontinued operations and non-cash income attributable to equity investments. On June 14, 2004, the Company amended the terms of the senior credit facility to clarify the definition of certain non-recurring charges excluded from the covenant calculations.

As of January 31, 2005, the Company had available borrowing capacity under its \$175.0 million revolving credit facility of up to \$124.1 million, subject to the Company's ability to meet certain borrowing conditions. The available capacity of \$124.1 million is net of outstanding irrevocable letters of credit of \$31.9 million.

This credit facility is secured by all of the Company's assets, including the Company's interest in the equity securities of the Company's subsidiaries. The revolving credit facility matures in January 2008 and the term loan matures in January 2010.

As of January 31, 2005, the Company had outstanding \$195.0 million of 9.75% senior subordinated notes (the "notes") which mature in January 2013. The senior subordinated note agreement contains covenants that restrict dividends, stock repurchases and other payments, and limits the incurrence of debt and issuance of preferred stock. The notes are guaranteed jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally by the Company's significant wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Net cash provided by operating activities amounted to \$62.1 million for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 compared to \$45.8 million for the same period of the prior fiscal year. The increase was mainly due to higher landfill amortization and depreciation expense which increased approximately \$6.8 million. This was primarily due to higher landfill volumes, in part related to new disposal facilities which became active in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004. Higher income from equity method investments of \$0.4 million was more than offset by a dividend of \$2.0 from GreenFiber in the nine months ended January 31, 2005. Deferred income taxes increased \$3.9 million from the prior year. Depletion of landfill operating lease obligations increased \$3.3 million from the prior year which was due to landfill operating lease contracts entered into in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004. Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and divestitures, increased \$3.0 million from the prior year. Cash flows from accounts receivable increased by \$3.0 million from the prior fiscal year due to higher revenues in the current fiscal year. Cash flows related to accounts payable decreased by \$5.0 million due to higher revenues in the current fiscal year. Cash flows related to accounts payable decreased \$4.8 million from the prior year which relates primarily to accrued interest of \$1.0 million associated with higher interest rates and timings of credit facility borrowings, payroll accruals of \$1.6 million and restricted cash which increased by \$1.6 million less in the nine months ended January 31, 2005 versus the same period of the prior fiscal year.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$77.5 million for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 compared to \$79.7 million used in investing activities in the same period of the prior fiscal year. The decrease in cash used in investing activities was due to lower acquisition activity by \$25.4 million in the current year as well as higher proceeds from divestitures of \$3.0 million and advances to unconsolidated entities of \$7.1 million in the nine months ended January 31, 2004 which did not recur in the nine months ended January 31, 2005. Offsetting this was increased capital expenditures of \$18.7 million in the current fiscal year as well as increased payments on landfill operating lease contracts of \$15.5 million related to landfill operating lease agreements entered into during the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2004.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$14.8 million for the nine months ended January 31, 2005 compared to \$27.6 million in the same period of the prior fiscal year. The decrease in cash provided by financing activities is primarily due to lower net borrowings of \$13.2 million for the nine months ended January 31, 2005. Higher net borrowings for the nine months ended January 31, 2004 were utilized primarily to fund acquisition activity.

The Company generally meets liquidity needs from operating cash flow. These liquidity needs are primarily for capital expenditures for vehicles, containers and landfill development, debt service costs and capping, closure and post-closure expenditures. It is the Company's intention to continue to grow organically and through acquisitions. The funds to do so are expected to be obtained from operations and the Company's credit facility. At January 31, 2005 at the Company's existing covenant requirements, all of the funds available under that facility could have been drawn without breaching those covenants.

In addition, the Company has filed a universal shelf registration statement with the SEC which has not yet

become effective. Once declared effective by the SEC, the Company could from time to time issue securities thereunder in an amount of up to \$250.0 million. However, the Company's ability and willingness to issue securities pursuant to this registration statement will depend on market conditions at the time of any such desired offering and therefore the Company may not be able to issue such securities on favorable terms, if at all.

#### **Inflation and Prevailing Economic Conditions**

To date, inflation has not had a significant impact on the Company's operations. Consistent with industry practice, most of the Company's contracts provide for a pass-through of certain costs, including increases in landfill tipping fees and, in some cases, fuel costs. The Company therefore believes it should be able to implement price increases sufficient to offset most cost increases resulting from inflation. However, competitive factors may require the Company to absorb at least a portion of these cost increases, particularly during periods of high inflation.

The Company's business is located mainly in the eastern United States. Therefore, the Company's 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. The Company is unable to forecast or determine the timing and /or the future impact of a sustained economic slowdown.

#### **Certain Factors That May Affect Future Results**

The following important factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by forward-looking statements made in this Form 10-Q and presented elsewhere by management from time to time.

#### The Company's increased leverage may restrict its future operations and impact its ability to make future acquisitions.

The Company's indebtedness has substantially increased. The payment of interest and principal due under this indebtedness has reduced, and may continue to reduce, funds available for other business purposes, including capital expenditures and acquisitions. In addition, the aggregate amount of indebtedness has limited and may continue to limit the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness, and thereby may limit its acquisition program.

## The Company may not be successful in making acquisitions of solid waste assets, including developing additional disposal capacity, or in integrating acquired businesses or assets, which could limit the Company's future growth.

The Company's strategy envisions that a substantial part of the Company's future growth will come from making acquisitions of traditional solid waste assets or operations and acquiring or developing additional disposal capacity. These acquisitions may include "tuck-in" acquisitions within the Company's existing markets, assets that are adjacent to or outside the Company's existing markets, or larger, more strategic acquisitions. In addition, from time to time the Company may acquire businesses that are complementary to the Company's core business strategy. The Company may not be able to identify suitable acquisition candidates. If the Company identifies suitable acquisition candidates, the Company may be unable to negotiate successfully their acquisition at a price or on terms and conditions favorable to the Company. Furthermore, the Company may be unable to obtain the necessary regulatory approval to complete potential acquisitions.

The Company's ability to achieve the benefits the Company anticipates from acquisitions, including cost savings and operating efficiencies, depends in part on the Company's ability to successfully integrate the operations of such acquired businesses with the Company's operations. The integration of acquired businesses and other assets may require significant management time and company resources that would otherwise be available for the ongoing management of the Company's existing operations.

In addition, the process of acquiring, developing and permitting additional disposal capacity is lengthy, expensive and uncertain. For example, the Company is currently involved in litigation with the Town of Bethlehem, New Hampshire relating to the expansion of a landfill owned by the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, North Country Environmental Services, Inc. Moreover, the disposal capacity at the Company's existing landfills is limited by the remaining available volume at the Company's landfills and annual, quarterly and/or daily disposal limits imposed by the various governmental authorities with jurisdiction over the Company's landfills. The Company typically reaches or approximates the Company's daily, quarterly and annual maximum permitted disposal capacity at the majority of the Company's landfills. If the Company is unable to develop or acquire additional disposal capacity, the Company's ability to achieve economies from the internalization of the Company's waste stream will be limited and the Company may be required to increase the Company's utilization of disposal facilities owned by third parties, which could reduce the Company's revenues and/or the Company's operating margins.

#### The Company's ability to make acquisitions is dependent on the availability of adequate cash and the attractiveness of the Company's stock price.

The Company anticipates that any future business acquisitions will be financed through cash from operations, borrowings under the Company's senior secured credit facilities, the issuance of shares of the Company's Class A common stock and/or seller financing. The Company may not have sufficient existing capital resources and may be unable to raise sufficient additional capital resources on terms satisfactory to the Company, if at all, in order to meet the Company's capital requirements for such acquisitions.

The Company also believes that a significant factor in the Company's ability to close acquisitions will be the attractiveness to the Company and to persons selling businesses to the Company of the Company's Class A common stock as consideration for potential acquisition candidates. This attractiveness may, in large part, be dependent upon the relative market price and capital appreciation prospects of the Company's Class A common stock compared to the equity securities of the Company's competitors. The trading price of the Company's Class A common stock on the NASDAQ National Market has limited the Company's willingness to use the Company's equity as consideration and the willingness of sellers to accept the Company's shares and as a result has limited, and could continue to limit, the size and scope of the Company's acquisition program.

#### Environmental regulations and litigation could subject the Company to fines, penalties, judgments and limitations on the Company's ability to expand.

The Company is subject to potential liability and restrictions under environmental laws, including those relating to transport, recycling, treatment, storage and disposal of wastes, discharges 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 to attempts to further regulate the industry through new legislation. The Company's waste-to-energy facility is subject to regulations limiting discharges of pollution into the air and water, and the Company's waste-to-energy facility in Biddeford, Maine is affected by zoning restrictions and air emissions limitations in its efforts to implement a new odor control system. If the Company is not able to comply with the requirements that apply to a particular facility or if the Company operates without necessary approvals, the Company could be



subject to civil, and possibly criminal, fines and penalties, and the Company may be required to spend substantial capital to bring an operation into compliance or to temporarily or permanently discontinue, and/or take corrective actions, possibly including removal of landfilled materials, regarding an operation that is not permitted under the law. The Company may not have sufficient insurance coverage for the Company's environmental liabilities. Those costs or actions could be significant to the Company and impact the Company's results of operations, as well as the Company's available capital.

Environmental and land use laws also impact the Company's ability to expand and, in the case of the Company's solid waste operations, may dictate those geographic areas from which the Company must, or, from which the Company may not, accept waste. Those laws and regulations may limit the overall size and daily waste volume that may be accepted by a solid waste operation. If the Company is not able to expand or otherwise operate one or more of the Company's facilities because of limits imposed under environmental laws, the Company may be required to increase the Company's utilization of disposal facilities owned by third parties, which could reduce the Company's revenues and/or operating margins.

The Company has historically grown and intends to continue to grow through acquisitions, and the Company has 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, including ones that may exist only because of the past operations of an acquired business, may prove to be more difficult or costly to address than the Company anticipates. It is also possible that government officials responsible for enforcing environmental laws may believe an issue is more serious than the Company expects, or that the Company will fail to identify or fully appreciate an existing liability before the Company becomes legally responsible to address it. Some of the legal sanctions to which the Company could become subject could cause the Company to lose a needed permit, or prevent the Company from or delay the Company in obtaining or renewing permits to operate the Company's facilities or harm the Company's reputation.

The Company's operating program depends on the Company's ability to operate and expand the landfills the Company owns and leases and to develop new landfill sites. Localities where the Company operates generally seek to regulate some or all landfill operations, including siting and expansion of operations. The laws adopted by municipalities in which the Company's landfills are located may limit or prohibit the expansion of the landfill as well as the amount of waste that the Company can accept at the landfill on a daily, quarterly or annual basis and any effort to acquire or expand landfills typically involves a significant amount of time and expense. For example, expansion at the Company's North County Environmental Services landfill, outside the original 51 acres, will be prohibited as a result of a recent decision by the New Hampshire Supreme Court unless the Company prevails in certain remanded issues under zoning laws or the Town revises its local ordinance prohibiting expansions. In addition, operation of the Templeton landfill will require repeal of a town by-law prohibiting the acceptance of out-of-town waste. The Company may not be successful in obtaining new landfill sites or expanding the permitted capacity of any of the Company's current landfills once their remaining disposal capacity has been consumed. If the Company is unable to develop additional disposal capacity, the Company's ability to achieve economies from the internalization of the Company's wastestream will be limited and the Company will be required to utilize the disposal facilities of the Company's competitors.

In addition to the costs of complying with environmental laws and regulations, the Company incurs costs defending against environmental litigation brought by governmental agencies and private parties. The Company is, and also may be in the future, a defendant in lawsuits brought by parties alleging environmental damage, personal injury, and/or property damage.

#### The Company's operations would be adversely affected if the Company does not have access to sufficient capital.

The Company's ability to remain competitive and sustain the Company's operations depends in part on cash flow from operations and the Company's access to capital. The Company currently funds the Company's cash needs primarily through cash from operations and borrowings under the Company's senior secured credit facilities. However, the Company may require additional equity and/or debt financing for debt repayment obligations and to fund the Company's growth and operations. In addition, if the Company undertakes more acquisitions or further expands the Company's operations, the Company's capital requirements may increase. The Company may not have access to the amount of capital that the Company requires from time to time, on favorable terms or at all.

#### The Company's results of operations could continue to be affected by changing prices or market requirements for recyclable materials.

The Company's results of operations have been and may continue to be affected by changing purchase or resale prices or market requirements for recyclable materials. The Company's recycling business involves the purchase and sale of recyclable materials, some of which are priced on a commodity basis. The resale and purchase prices of, and market demand for, recyclable materials, particularly waste paper, plastic and ferrous and aluminum metals, can be volatile due to numerous factors beyond the Company's control. Although the Company seeks to limit the Company's exposure to fluctuating commodity prices through the use of hedging agreements and long-term supply contracts with customers, these fluctuations have in the past contributed, and may continue to contribute, to significant variability in the Company's period-to-period results of operations.

#### The Company's business is geographically concentrated and is therefore subject to regional economic downturns.

The Company's operations and customers are principally located in the eastern United States. Therefore, the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations are susceptible to regional economic downturns and other regional factors, including state regulations and budget constraints and severe weather conditions. In addition, as the Company expands in the Company's existing markets, opportunities for growth within these regions will become more limited and the geographic concentration of the Company's business will increase.

## Maine Energy may be required to make a payment in connection with the payoff of certain obligations and limited partner loans earlier than the Company had anticipated and which may exceed the amount of the liability the Company recorded in connection with the KTI acquisition.

Under the terms of waste handling agreements among the Biddeford-Saco Waste Handling Committee, the cities of Biddeford and Saco, Maine, and the Company's subsidiary Maine Energy, Maine Energy will be required, following the date on which the bonds that financed Maine Energy and certain limited partner loans to Maine Energy are paid in full, to pay a residual cancellation payment to the respective municipalities party to those agreements equal to a certain percentage of the fair market value of the equity of the partners in Maine Energy. In connection with the Company's merger with KTI, the Company estimated the fair market value of Maine Energy as of the date the limited partner loans are anticipated to be paid in full, and recorded a liability equal to the applicable percentage of such amount. The obligation has been estimated by management at \$9.7 million. Management believes the possibility of material loss in excess of this amount is remote. The Company's estimate of the fair market value of Maine Energy, the Company could be required to recognize unanticipated charges, in which case the Company's operating results could be harmed.

In connection with these waste handling agreements, the cities of Biddeford and Saco have lawsuits pending in the State of Maine seeking the residual cancellation payments and alleging, among other things, the Company's breach of the waste handling agreement for the Company's failure to pay the residual



cancellation payments in connection with the KTI merger, failure to pay off limited partner loans in accordance with the terms of the agreement and processing amounts of waste above contractual limits without issuance of proper notice. The complaint seeks damages for breach of contract and a court order requiring the Company to provide an accounting of all relevant transactions since May 3, 1996. The Company is currently engaged in settlement negotiations with the cities of Biddeford and Saco, however, at this stage it is impossible to predict whether a settlement will be reached. If the plaintiffs are successful in their claims against the Company and damages are awarded, the Company's operating income in the period in which such a claim is paid would be impacted.

#### The Company may not be able to effectively compete in the highly competitive solid waste services industry.

The solid waste services industry is highly competitive, has undergone a period of rapid consolidation and requires substantial labor and capital resources. Some of the markets in which the Company competes or will likely compete are served by one or more of the large national or multinational solid waste companies, as well as numerous regional and local solid waste companies. Intense competition exists not only to provide services to customers, but also to acquire other businesses within each market. Some of the Company's competitors have significantly greater financial and other resources than the Company. From time to time, competitors may reduce the price of their services in an effort to expand market share or to win a competitively bid contract. These practices may either require the Company to reduce the pricing of the Company's services or result in the Company's loss of business.

As is generally the case in the industry, some municipal contracts are subject to periodic competitive bidding. The Company may not be the successful bidder to obtain or retain these contracts. If the Company is unable to compete with larger and better capitalized companies, or to replace municipal contracts lost through the competitive bidding process with comparable contracts or other revenue sources within a reasonable time period the Company's revenues would decrease and the Company's operating results would be harmed.

In the Company's solid waste disposal markets the Company also competes with operators of alternative disposal and recycling facilities and with counties, municipalities and solid waste districts that maintain their own waste collection, recycling and disposal operations. These entities may have financial advantages because user fees or similar charges, tax revenues and tax-exempt financing may be more available to them than to the Company.

The Company's GreenFiber insulation manufacturing joint venture with Louisiana-Pacific Corporation competes with other parties, principally national manufacturers of fiberglass insulation, which have substantially greater resources than GreenFiber does, which they could use for product development, marketing or other purposes to the Company's detriment.

## The Company's results of operations and financial condition may be negatively affected if the Company inadequately accrues for capping, closure and post-closure costs.

The Company has material financial obligations relating to capping, closure and post-closure costs of the Company's existing landfills and will have material financial obligations with respect to any disposal facilities which the Company may own or operate in the future. Once the permitted capacity of a particular landfill is reached and additional capacity is not authorized, the landfill must be closed and capped, and post-closure maintenance started. The Company establishes reserves for the estimated costs associated with such capping, closure and post-closure obligations over the anticipated useful life of each landfill on a per ton basis. In addition to the landfills the Company currently operates, the Company owns four unlined landfills, which are not currently in operation. The Company has provided and will in the future provide accruals for financial obligations relating to capping, closure and post-closure costs of the Company's owned or operated landfills, generally for a term of 30 years after final closure of a landfill. The Company's financial

obligations for capping, closure or post-closure costs could exceed the amount accrued and reserved or amounts otherwise receivable pursuant to trust funds established for this purpose. Such a circumstance could result in significant unanticipated charges.

#### Fluctuations in fuel costs could affect the Company's operating expenses and results.

The price and supply of fuel is unpredictable and fluctuates based on events beyond the Company's control, including among others, geopolitical developments, supply and demand for oil and gas, actions by OPEC and other oil and gas producers, war and unrest in oil producing countries and regional production patterns. Because fuel is needed to run the Company's fleet of trucks, price escalations for fuel increase the Company's operating expenses. In the nine months ended January 31, 2005, the Company used approximately 5.4 million gallons of diesel fuel in the Company's solid waste operations. Although many of the Company's customer contracts permit the Company to pass on some or all fuel increases to the Company's customers, the Company may choose not to do so for competitive reasons.

## The Company could be precluded from entering into contracts or obtaining permits if the Company is unable to obtain third party financial assurance to secure the Company's contractual obligations.

Public solid waste collection, recycling and disposal contracts, obligations associated with landfill closure and the operation and closure of waste-to-energy facilities may require performance or surety bonds, letters of credit or other means of financial assurance to secure the Company's contractual performance. If the Company is unable to obtain the necessary financial assurance in sufficient amounts or at acceptable rates, the Company could be precluded from entering into additional municipal solid waste collection contracts or from obtaining or retaining landfill management contracts or operating permits. Any future difficulty in obtaining insurance could also impair the Company's ability to secure future contracts conditioned upon the contractor having adequate insurance coverage.

#### The Company may be required to write-off capitalized charges or intangible assets in the future, which could harm the Company's earnings.

Any write-off of capitalized costs or intangible assets reduces the Company's earnings and, consequently, could affect the market price of the Company's Class A common stock. In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, the Company capitalizes certain expenditures and advances relating to the Company's acquisitions, pending acquisitions, landfills and development projects. From time to time in future periods, the Company may be required to incur a charge against earnings in an amount equal to any unamortized capitalized expenditures and advances, net of any portion thereof that the Company estimates will be recoverable, through sale or otherwise, relating to (1) any operation that is permanently shut down or has not generated or is not expected to generate sufficient cash flow, (2) any pending acquisition that is not consummated, (3) any landfill or development project that is not expected to be successfully completed, and (4) any goodwill or other intangible assets that are determined to be impaired. The Company has incurred such charges in the past.

#### The Company's revenues and the Company's operating income experience seasonal fluctuations.

The Company's transfer and disposal revenues have historically been lower during the months of November through March. This seasonality reflects the lower volume of waste during the late fall, winter and early spring months primarily because:

• the volume of waste relating to construction and demolition activities decreases substantially during the winter months in the Northeastern United States; and

• decreased tourism in Vermont, 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 winter ski industry.

The Company's recycling business experiences increased volumes of newspaper in November and December due to increased newspaper advertising and retail activity during the holiday season. The Company's cellulose insulation joint venture experiences lower sales in March and April due to lower retail activity.

#### Efforts by labor unions to organize the Company's employees could divert management attention and increase the Company's operating expenses.

Labor unions regularly make attempts to organize the Company's employees, and these efforts will likely continue in the future. Certain groups of the Company's employees have chosen to be represented by unions, and the Company has negotiated collective bargaining agreements with these groups. The negotiation of collective bargaining agreements could divert management attention and result in increased operating expenses and lower net income. If the Company is unable to negotiate acceptable collective bargaining agreements, the Company might have to wait through "cooling off" periods, which are often followed by union-initiated work stoppages, including strikes. Depending on the type and duration of any labor disruptions, the Company's revenues could decrease and the Company's operating expenses could increase, which could adversely affect the Company's financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. As of February 28, 2005, approximately 4.2% of the Company's employees involved in collection, transfer, disposal, recycling or other operations, including the Company's employees at the Company's Maine Energy waste-to-energy facility, were represented by unions.

#### The Company's Class B common stock has ten votes per share and is held exclusively by John W. Casella and Douglas R. Casella.

The holders of the Company's Class B common stock are entitled to ten votes per share and the holders of the Company's Class A common stock are entitled to one vote per share. At February 28, 2005, an aggregate of 988,200 shares of the Company's Class B common stock, representing 9,882,000 votes, were outstanding, all of which were beneficially owned by John W. Casella, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, or by his brother, Douglas R. Casella, a member of the Company's Board of Directors. Based on the number of shares of common stock and Series A redeemable convertible preferred stock outstanding on February 28, 2005, the shares of the Company's Class A common stock and Class B common stock beneficially owned by John W. Casella and Douglas R. Casella represent approximately 29.2% of the aggregate voting power of the Company's stockholders. Consequently, John W. Casella and Douglas R. Casella are able to substantially influence all matters for stockholder consideration.

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

#### Interest rate volatility

The interest rate on \$53.0 million of long term debt has been fixed through two interest rate swaps. The Company had interest rate risk relating to approximately \$113.0 million of long-term debt at January 31, 2005. The interest rate on the variable rate portion of long-term debt was approximately 5.14% at January 31, 2005. Should the average interest rate on the variable rate portion of long-term debt change by 100 basis points, it would have an approximate interest expense change of \$0.3 million for the quarter reported.

The remainder of the Company's long-term debt is at fixed rates and not subject to interest rate risk.



#### Commodity price volatility

The Company is subject to commodity price fluctuations related to the portion of our sales of recyclable commodities that are not under floor or flat pricing arrangements. As of January 31, 2005, to minimize the Company's commodity exposure, the Company was party to twenty-five commodity hedging agreements. The Company does not use financial instruments for trading purposes and is not a party to any leveraged derivatives. If commodity prices were to change by 10%, the impact on our operating margin is estimated at \$0.6 million for the quarter ended January 31, 2005, without considering our hedging agreements. The effect of the hedge position would reduce the impact by approximately \$0.2 million.

#### ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

- a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. The Company's management, with the participation of its chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of January 31, 2005. Based on this evaluation, the Company's chief executive officer and chief financial officer have concluded that, as of the end of such period, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide reasonable assurance that: (i) information required to be disclosed by the 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: and (ii) information required to be disclosed by the Company Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.
- b) Changes in internal controls. During the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, there were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.
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#### PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

#### **ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

Pursuant to the applicable rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, information as to material legal proceedings is presented in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, and information as to such legal proceedings is only included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and in any other Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q to the extent there have been material developments with respect to such proceedings during the period covered by such Quarterly Report.

The New Hampshire Superior Court in Grafton, NH ruled on February 1, 1999 that the Town of Bethlehem, NH could not enforce an ordinance purportedly prohibiting expansion of the Company's NCES landfill, at least with respect to 51 acres of NCES's 87 acre parcel, based upon certain existing land-use approvals. As a result, NCES was able to construct and operate "Stage II, Phase II" of the landfill. In May 2001, the Supreme Court denied the Town's appeal. Notwithstanding the Supreme Court's 2001 ruling, the Town continued to assert jurisdiction to conduct unqualified site plan review with respect to Stage III and has further stated that the Town's height ordinance and building permit process may apply to Stage III. On September 12, 2001, the Company filed a petition for, among other things, declaratory relief. On December 4, 2001, the Town filed an answer to the Company's petition asserting counterclaims seeking, among other things, authorization to assert site plan review over Stage III, which commenced operation in December 2000, as well as the methane gas utilization/leachate handling facility operating in Stage III, and also an order declaring that an ordinance prohibiting landfills applies to Stage IV expansion. The trial related to the Town's jurisdiction was held in December 2002 and on April 24, 2003, the Grafton Superior Court upheld the Town's 1992 ordinance preventing the location or expansion of any landfill, ruling that the ordinance may be applied to any part of Stage IV that goes beyond the 51 acres; ruling that the Town's height ordinance is valid within the 51 acres; upholding the Town's right to require Site Plan Review, except that there are certain areas within the Town's Site Plan Review regulation that are preempted; and ruling that the methane gas utilization/leachate handling facility is not subject to the Town's ordinance forbidding incinerators. On May 27, 2003, NCES appealed the Court ruling to the New Hampshire Supreme Court. On March 1, 2004, the Supreme Court issued an opinion affirming that NCES has all of the local approvals that it needs to operate within the 51 acres. If successful in obtaining state permits for development and operation within the 51 acres, NCES expects to be able to provide from three to five years of disposal capacity. The Supreme Court's opinion left open for further review the question of whether the Town's 1992 ordinance can prevent expansion of the facility outside the 51 acres, remanding to the Superior Court two legal claims raised by NCES as grounds for invalidating the 1992 ordinance. An interlocutory appeal to the Supreme Court by NCES regarding a Superior Court judge's denial of a motion to recuse herself was denied on November 18, 2004. The parties have filed numerous motions before the trial court which remain pending.

During the period of November 21, 1996 to October 9, 1997, the Company performed certain closure activities and installed a cut-off wall at the Clinton County landfill, located in Clinton County, New York. On or about April 1999, the New York State Department of Labor ("DOL") alleged that the Company should have paid prevailing wages in connection with the labor associated with such activities. The Company has disputed the allegations and a hearing on the liability issue was held on September 16, 2002. In November 2002, both sides submitted proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law. On May 12, 2004, the Commissioner of Labor issued an order finding that the closure activities and the cut-off wall project were "public works" projects that were subject to prevailing wage requirements. On June 10, 2004 the Company filed a judicial challenge to the Commissioner's decision, which was stayed for a 9-month period. On March 4, 2005, because the DOL is still reviewing the records related to potential damages, the Company made a motion to extend the period for perfecting its appeal, or alternatively, to confirm that a withdrawal of its appeal would be without prejudice and without a waiver of the right to reinstate the appeal upon a final determination of alleged damages. The Company will continue to explore settlement possibilities with the

State in lieu of a hearing on damages, which is not yet scheduled. Although a loss as a result of these claims is probable, the Company cannot estimate a range of probable losses at this time. A charge incurred by the Company related to these claims will not have an immediate impact on operations but will be capitalized as part of the related landfill asset and amortized over the life of the landfill as tons are placed at the site.

On March 2, 2005, the Company was issued an Administrative Order by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") revoking the Company's transfer station permit for its 75-ton per day transfer station located in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania and ordering that the site be closed. The DEP based its decision on certain alleged violations related to recordkeeping and site management over a 5-year period. The Company intends to appeal the Order. The Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office is also conducting a criminal investigation of the allegations.

The Company offers no prediction on the outcome of any of the proceedings to which it is subject. The Company is vigorously defending this lawsuit. However, there can be no guarantee the Company will prevail or that any judgments against the Company, if sustained on appeal, will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations.

#### ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

None.

#### **ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

None.

#### ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

None.

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

None

#### **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.



#### SIGNATURE

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: March 11, 2005

By: <u>/s/ Richard A. Norris</u> Richard A. Norris Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer and Duly Authorized Officer)

#### Exhibit Index

- 31.1 Certification of John W. Casella, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15(d)— 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes — Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Richard A. Norris, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15(d)—14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. S 1350 of John W. Casella, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer, as adopted pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. S 1350 of Richard A. Norris, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, as adopted pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

#### CERTIFICATIONS

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) for the registrant and we 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) 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

c) 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.

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Date: March 11, 2005

By: /s/ John W. Casella John W. Casella Chief Executive Officer

#### CERTIFICATIONS

I, Richard A. Norris, 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) for the registrant and we 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) 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

c) 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: March 11, 2005

By: <u>/s/ Richard A. Norris</u> Richard A. Norris Chief 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. (the "Company") for the period ended January 31, 2005 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), the undersigned, John W. Casella, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

(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, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: March 11, 2005

By: <u>/s/ John W. Casella</u> John W. Casella Chief 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. (the "Company") for the period ended January 31, 2005 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), the undersigned, Richard A. Norris, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

(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, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: March 11, 2005

By: /s/ Richard A. Norris Richard A. Norris Chief Financial Officer