

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
UNION COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY**

Resolution No.: 78 -2025 |
Date: December 17, 2025

Approved as to form:

Bianka Vargas, Clerk

Approved as to sufficiency of funds:

, Acting Comptroller

RESOLUTION OF THE UNION COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY
RECOMMENDING AN ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT TO
THE UNION COUNTY DISTRICT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN TO
UPDATE THE BLOCK AND LOT DESIGNATIONS FOR AN EXISTING
REGULATED WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEM AND FOR THE ADDITION OF
ONE REGULATED WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Solid Waste Management Act, N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq. (the “SWMA”), each county within the State of New Jersey is designated a solid waste management district with responsibility for the development of a solid waste management plan setting forth the solid waste disposal strategy to be applied in the district; and

WHEREAS, the Union County District Solid Waste Management Plan (the "County Plan"), developed in accordance with the SWMA, was initially adopted by the County of Union (the "County") on June 7, 1979 and certified by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP") on August 13, 1980, and has since been amended from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the Union County Utilities Authority (“UCUA”) was created by the County, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal and County Utilities Authorities Law, N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq., by an Ordinance adopted on June 5, 1986, as amended on December 11, 1986, and has been designated by the County, pursuant to and in accordance with the SWMA, as the agency responsible for implementation of the County Plan; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 15, 2025, Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC ("Merck") filed an application with the UCUA, requesting an amendment of the County Plan related to batch thermal units at the Merck Campus located at Block 396, Lot 1 in the City of Rahway, Union County, New Jersey, 07065 (the "Facility"), which is owned and operated by Merck; and

WHEREAS, Merck is seeking to (1) update the Block and Lot numbers for an existing batch thermal unit located in FLEX-Building 880 ("B880"), and (2) to install an additional batch thermal unit in Building 881 ("B881") at the Facility, which is an annex to Building 880; and

WHEREAS, Merck previously obtained approval from UCUA for the installation of the existing batch thermal unit in B880 and a second batch thermal unit in Building 870, which are used to treat liquid process wastewater streams (the “Thermal Treatment Systems”); and

WHEREAS, the updated block and lot designation for the existing batch thermal unit in B880 is required by the NJDEP; and

WHEREAS, the County Plan identifies the Thermal Treatment System in B880 as being only located on Block 396, Lot 1 in the City of Rahway. However, additional aerial imagery and review of tax maps indicate that B880 spans two properties: Block 396, Lot 1 in the City of Rahway and Block 470, Lot 67 in the City of Linden, Union County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Merck received approval from the Rahway Planning Board to install the additional batch thermal unit in B881, which will be identical in design and will process waste of a similar type and flow as the unit currently managed by the existing system in B880. The new B881 unit will treat liquid Biowaste Material streams and has an anticipated operational flow rate of 3,200 liters per day; and

WHEREAS, while the aqueous Biowaste Materials, which contain trace amounts of residual compounds that meet the Class 1 Regulated Medical Waste category, the Thermal Treatment Systems will heat sterilize liquid process wastewaters generated by Merck's operations and inactivate the Biowaste Material, and discharge a liquid stream containing trace amounts of solids to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority in accordance with Merck's Permit # 037; and

WHEREAS, there are no vehicles used nor traffic control procedures required, no loading and unloading operations involved, nor any delivery inspection requirements for the proposed Thermal Treatment Systems; and

WHEREAS, the treatment of the aqueous Biowaste Material streams does not generate solid waste; all aqueous material is discharged directly to the existing sanitary sewer system; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP's solid waste regulations (N.J.A.C. 7:26-1.1 et seq.) provide certain actions to amend a county solid waste management plan may be taken by administrative action by the implementing agency without the necessity for a full plan amendment which would otherwise require notice and a public hearing before the governing body of the County; and

WHEREAS, UCUA has determined that the inclusion in the County Plan of the proposed Facility modifications and Block/Lot updates does not warrant a full plan amendment and may be amended via administrative action, as set forth at N.J.A.C. 7:26-6.11; and

WHEREAS, on or about November 17, 2025, UCUA received a letter report from UCUA's Engineers, CME Associates, describing the proposed modifications, setting forth no engineering objections to the updated Block and Lot for B881 or to the addition of the proposed Thermal Treatment System in B881, to be adopted as an amendment to the County Plan, subject to County and NJDEP approval, as applicable; and

WHEREAS, the approval of Merck's application to amend the County Plan as described above is consistent with the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan and the State's recycling goals, is in the best interests of the County and its citizens, and is necessary for UCUA's continued effective operation as the agency responsible for implementation of the County Plan; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, UCUA desires to amend the County Plan based on Merck's application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Union County Utilities Authority as follows:

Section 1. The aforesaid recitals are hereby incorporated by reference, as if set forth at length herein.

Section 2. UCUA hereby authorizes, by administrative action, an amendment to the County Plan to: (1) update the Block and Lots for Building 880 (B880) at the Facility to include both Block 396, Lot 1 in the City of Rahway and Block 470, Lot 67 in the City of Linden, Union County, New Jersey; and (2) to reflect the addition of one (1) batch thermal unit to treat liquid process wastewater streams generated by Merck's operations to be located in Building 881 of the Facility owned and operated by Merck Sharp & Dohme, LLC, located at Block 396, Lot 1 in the City of Rahway, Union County, New Jersey, 07065.

Section 3. The amendment to the County Plan is subject to Merck's compliance with the UCUA Engineer's (CME Associates) comments and recommendations in its November 17, 2025 letter report and receipt of approval from the County and NJDEP, if applicable.

Section 4. The Executive Director of UCUA, Special Counsel and/or Authority Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to submit the application from Merck and this Resolution to NJDEP as an administrative action in order to obtain such approvals as may be necessary under law.

Section 5. A copy of this Resolution, together with a copy of Merck's application to amend the County Plan, shall be made available for public inspection at the UCUA's administrative offices located at 1499 Routes 1 & 9 North, Rahway, New Jersey.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

	PRESENT	ABSENT	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	MOTION	SECOND
<i>Eastman</i>	✓		✓				
<i>Figueiredo</i>		✓					
<i>Holder</i>	✓		✓				
<i>Jackus</i>	✓		✓				
<i>Kahn</i>		✓					
<i>McManus</i>		✓					
<i>Rachlin</i>	✓		✓				✓
<i>Scutari</i>	✓		✓			✓	
<i>Szpond</i>	✓		✓				
<i>Alma, Alternate No. 1</i>	✓		✓				
<i>Scott-Bey, Alternate No. 2</i>	✓		✓				