

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1997

COMMISSION FILE NO. 0-16379

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.
(EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

MASSACHUSETTS
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

04-2997780
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

1501 WASHINGTON STREET,
BRAintree, MASSACHUSETTS
(Address of principal executive offices)

02185-0327
(Zip Code)

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: (781) 849-1800 EXT. 4454

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(B) OF THE ACT:

None

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(G) OF THE ACT:

Common Stock, \$.01 par value

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 twelve 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 /X/ No / /

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. / /

On March 18, 1998, the aggregate market value of the voting stock of the registrant held by nonaffiliates of the registrant was \$10,826,204. Reference is made to Part III of this report for the assumptions on which this calculation is based.

On March 18, 1998, there were outstanding 10,195,016 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Certain portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement for its 1998

annual meeting of stockholders (which is expected to be filed with the Commission not later than April 30, 1998) are incorporated by reference into part III of this report.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Clean Harbors, Inc., through its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company"), provides a wide range of industrial waste management services to a diversified customer base across the United States. The Company was incorporated in Massachusetts in 1980. The principal offices of the Company are located in Braintree, Massachusetts.

The Company is one of the largest providers of industrial waste management services in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States, with a strong presence in the Central, Midwest and Southern regions. The Company seeks to be recognized by customers as the premier supplier of a broad range of value-added industrial waste management services based upon quality, responsiveness, customer service, variety of risk containment systems, and cost effectiveness.

For the third consecutive year, the Company's earnings were adversely affected by continued poor conditions in the hazardous waste disposal industry. Intense price competition, unpredictable event business and fewer large scale remediation projects generating waste for disposal contributed to weakness across all segments of the hazardous waste disposal industry. To respond to industry conditions, the Company instituted aggressive cost cutting measures and profit improvement efforts in all its service lines during 1996, and these efforts continued through 1997.

The Company currently maintains a network of sales and regional logistics offices and service centers located in 23 states and Puerto Rico, and operates 12 waste management facilities. The service centers interface with customers, and perform a variety of environmental remediation and hazardous waste management activities, utilizing the waste management facilities to store, treat and dispose of waste. The Company also provides analytical testing and technical services which complement its primary services and permit it to offer complete solutions to its customers' complex environmental requirements. The Company's principal customers are utility, chemical, petroleum, transportation and industrial firms, other waste management companies and government agencies.

Federal and state environmental regulation and enforcement programs have been a major factor in providing demand for environmental services. The Company believes that its business depends in large part on customers' confidence in the Company's ability to comply with these regulations and to manage effectively the risks involved in providing these services. As part of its commitment to employee safety and quality customer service, the Company has an extensive compliance program and a trained environmental, health and safety staff. The Company adheres to a risk management program designed to reduce potential liabilities for the Company and its customers.

BUSINESS STRATEGY

The Company's strategy is to develop and maintain an ongoing relationship with a diversified group of customers who have recurring needs for multiple services in managing their environmental exposure.

In order to maintain and enhance its position in the industrial waste management industry within the core markets in which it operates, the Company strives to achieve internal growth through the efficient utilization of existing facilities and the development of new waste management services. In addition, the Company has achieved external growth through strategic acquisitions.

IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES. The Company currently

has 12 waste management facilities which represent a substantial investment in permits, plants and equipment. In 1996, the Company started the implementation of its CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- system, which the Company believes has resulted in, and will continue to result in, increased efficiencies relative to the transfer of waste materials through the Company's network of waste management facilities to its expanded and upgraded Chicago facility. Implementation of CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- is expected to be substantially complete by the end of 1998.

This network of transfer facilities provides the Company with significant operating leverage. There are opportunities to expand waste handling capacity at these facilities by modifying the terms of the existing permits and by adding capital equipment and new technology. Through selected permit modifications, the Company can expand the range of treatment services which it offers to its customers without the large capital investment necessary to acquire or build new waste management facilities.

NEW WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES. Industrial waste generators are demanding alternatives to traditional waste disposal methods in order to increase recycling and reclamation and to minimize the end disposal of hazardous waste. The Company utilizes its technological expertise and innovation to improve and expand the range of services which it offers to its customers.

In May 1995, the Company acquired a newly constructed hazardous waste incinerator in Kimball, Nebraska, to incinerate liquid and solid wastes. The availability of the Kimball incinerator has reduced the Company's dependence on outside disposal vendors.

CAPITALIZATION ON INDUSTRY CONSOLIDATION. The Company believes that its large industrial customers will ultimately require a comprehensive range of waste treatment capabilities, field services, industrial maintenance services and emergency response services to be provided by a select number of service providers. This trend should place smaller operators at a competitive disadvantage due to their size and limited financial resources. To respond to its customers' needs, the Company has increased the range of waste management services it offers and has followed a strategy of acquiring companies in existing, contiguous and new market areas. Acquisitions within the Company's existing areas of operation serve to capture incremental market share, while geographic expansion creates new market opportunities. The Company continues to evaluate other business opportunities in order to enhance service to its existing customer base and expand its customer base.

ACQUISITIONS

The Company has completed three acquisitions since January 1, 1993.

DATE OF ACQUISITION	ACQUISITION	PURCHASE PRICE
1993	Spring Grove Resource Recovery, Inc., the operator of a hazardous waste storage and treatment facility in Cincinnati, Ohio	\$7.0 million
1994	The assets of a hazardous and nonhazardous oil reclamation facility located near Richmond, Virginia	\$0.4 million
1995	The assets of a newly constructed hazardous waste incinerator located in Kimball, Nebraska	\$5.2 million

Prior to completing any acquisition, the Company strives to investigate the current and contingent liabilities of the company or assets to be acquired, including potential liabilities arising from noncompliance with environmental laws by prior owners for which the Company, as a successor owner, might become responsible. The Company also seeks to minimize the impact of potential liabilities by obtaining indemnities and warranties from the sellers which may be supported by deferring payment of or by escrowing a portion of the purchase price. See "Legal Proceedings" below for a description of the indemnities which

the Company has received in connection with past acquisitions.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COMPANY

SERVICES

The principal services provided by the Company fit within three categories: treatment and disposal of industrial wastes ("Treatment and Disposal"); field services provided at customer sites ("Field Services");

2

and specialized repackaging, treatment and disposal services for laboratory chemicals and household hazardous wastes ("CleanPack"-Registered Trademark-). The Company markets these services through its sales organizations and, in many instances, services in one area of the business support or lead to work in other service lines.

In addition to these three principal services, the Company also provides technical services such as analytical testing, site characterization, remediation and personnel training. Such technical services primarily support the Company's principal services, although technical services are also offered to a limited extent on a stand-alone commercial basis.

As an integral part of the Company's services, industrial wastes are collected from customers and transported by the Company to and between its facilities for treatment or bulking for shipment to final disposal locations. Customers typically accumulate waste in containers, such as 55-gallon drums, bulk storage tanks or 20-cubic yard roll-off boxes. In providing this service, the Company utilizes a variety of specially designed and constructed tank trucks and semi-trailers, as well as third-party transporters, including railroads. Liquid waste is frequently transported in bulk, but may also be transported in drums. Heavier sludges or bulk solids are transported in sealed, roll-off boxes or bulk dump trailers.

TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL

The Company transports, treats and disposes of industrial wastes for commercial and industrial customers, health care providers, educational and research organizations, other waste management companies and governmental entities. The wastes handled include substances which are classified as "hazardous" because of their corrosive, ignitable, infectious, reactive or toxic properties, and other substances subject to federal and state environmental regulation. Waste types processed or transferred in drums or bulk quantities include:

- -- flammables, combustibles and other organics;
- -- acids and caustics;
- -- cyanides and sulfides;
- -- solids and sludges;
- -- industrial wastewaters;
- -- items containing PCBs, such as utility transformers and electrical light ballasts;
- -- medical waste;
- -- other regulated wastes; and
- -- nonhazardous industrial waste.

The Company receives a detailed waste profile sheet prepared by the customer to document the nature of the customer's waste. A sample of the delivered waste is tested to ensure that it conforms to the customer's waste profile record and

to select an appropriate method of treatment and disposal. Once the wastes are characterized, compatible groups are consolidated to achieve economies in storage, handling, transportation and ultimate treatment and disposal. At the time of acceptance of a customer's waste at the Company's facility, a unique computer "bar code" identification label is assigned to each container of waste, enabling the Company to use sophisticated computer systems to track and document the status, location and disposition of the waste.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT. The Company's wastewater treatment operations involve processing hazardous wastes through the use of physical and chemical treatment methods. The solid waste materials produced by these wastewater processing operations are then disposed of off-site at facilities owned and operated by unrelated businesses, while the treated effluent is discharged to the local sewer system under permit.

The Company treats a broad range of industrial liquid and semi-liquid wastes containing heavy metals, organics and suspended solids, including:

- -- acids and caustics;
- -- ammonias, sulfides and cyanides;
- 3
- -- heavy metals, ink wastes and plating solutions;
- -- landfill leachates and scrubber waters; and
- -- oily wastes and water soluble coolants.

Wastewater treatment can be economical as well as environmentally sound, by combining different wastewaters in a "batching" process that reduces costs for multiple waste stream disposal. Acidic waste from one source can be neutralized with alkaline from a second source to produce a neutral solution.

PHYSICAL TREATMENT. Physical treatment methods include distillation, separation and stabilization. These methods are used to reduce the volume or toxicity of waste material or to make it suitable for further treatment, reuse, or disposal. Distillation uses either heat or vacuum to purify liquids for resale. Separation utilizes techniques such as sedimentation, filtration, flocculation and centrifugation to remove solid materials from liquids. Stabilization refers to a category of waste treatment processes designed to reduce contaminant mobility or solubility and convert waste to a more chemically stable form. Stabilization technology includes many classes of immobilization systems and applications. Stabilization is a frequent treatment method for metal-bearing wastes received at several Company facilities, which treat the waste to meet specific federal land disposal restrictions. After treatment, the waste is tested to confirm that it has been rendered nonhazardous. It can then be sent to a nonhazardous waste landfill, at significantly lower cost than disposal at a hazardous waste landfill.

THERMAL TREATMENT. Thermal treatment refers to processes that use high temperature combustion as the principal means of waste destruction. The Company's state-of-the-art hazardous waste incinerator in Kimball, Nebraska, uses a fluidized bed thermal oxidation unit for maximum destruction efficiency of hazardous waste.

RESOURCE RECOVERY. Resource recovery involves the treatment of wastes using various methods which will effectively remove contaminants from the original material to restore its fitness for its intended purpose and to reduce the volume of waste requiring disposal. The Company operates treatment systems for the reclamation and reuse of certain wastes, particularly solvent-based wastes generated by industrial cleaning operations, metal finishing and other manufacturing processes.

Spent solvents that can be recycled are processed through thin film evaporators and other processing equipment and are distilled into usable products. Upon recovery of these products, the Company either returns the

recovered solvents to the original generator or sells them to third parties.

Organic liquids and solids with sufficient heat value are blended to meet strict specifications for use as supplemental fuels for cement kilns, industrial furnaces and other high-efficiency boilers. The Company has installed fuels blending equipment at its Chicago and Cincinnati plants to prepare these supplemental fuels. The Company has established relationships with a number of supplemental fuel users that are licensed to accept the blended fuel material. Although the Company pays a fee to the users who accept this product, this disposal method is substantially less costly than other disposal methods.

CLEAN EXTRACTION SYSTEM. The Clean Extraction System ("CES") is a hazardous waste treatment system commercialized by the Company at its Baltimore facility, which extracts organic compounds from industrial wastewater. CES removes organic contaminants such as gasoline, acetone, methylene chloride, pesticides and other chemicals, from industrial wastewater known as "lean water." Lean water is generated by oil companies, utilities, and manufacturers of specialty chemicals and pharmaceuticals.

The CES process enables the Company to handle a broad range of complex, difficult to treat organic and inorganic wastewaters which would otherwise be sent to other companies for disposal. CES offers the Company's industrial customers, such as chemical or pharmaceutical companies, an attractive recycling alternative to incineration or deep well injection of their waste systems.

DISPOSAL. After treatment of industrial wastes at the Company's facilities, the hazardous waste residues (such as sludges), which remain after such treatment, are disposed of in facilities operated by third

4

parties. The Company also arranges for the disposal of its customers' hazardous wastes, which cannot be treated at Company-owned facilities. Wastes, which cannot be disposed of in the Nebraska hazardous waste incinerator, are sent to other incinerators, landfills, and disposal facilities operated by third parties. On occasion, a customer's waste may be shipped directly to another disposal company, such as a landfill or incinerator, if the size of the waste shipment or its characteristics are such that the waste does not need to pass through one of the Company's own waste management facilities. The Company has negotiated favorable commercial terms with a number of disposal companies.

FIELD SERVICES

The Company provides a wide range of environmental field services to maintain industrial facilities and process equipment, as well as, clean up or contain actual or threatened releases of hazardous materials into the environment. These services are provided primarily to large chemical, petroleum, transportation, utility, industrial waste management companies and governmental agencies. The Company's strategy is to identify, evaluate, and solve its customers' environmental problems, on a planned or emergency basis, by providing a comprehensive interdisciplinary response to the specific requirements of each project.

INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE. Many of the Company's customers have a recurring need to clean equipment and facilities periodically in order to continue operations, maintain and improve operating efficiencies of their plants, and satisfy safety requirements. Industrial maintenance involves chemical cleaning, hydroblasting, vacuuming, and other methods to remove deposits from process equipment, such as paint booths and plating lines, and storage facilities for material used in the manufacturing or production process, such as feedstocks, chemicals, fuels, paints, oils, inks, metals and many other items. The Company's service centers are equipped with special equipment, such as high volume pumps, pressure washers, nonsparking and chemical resistant tools, and a variety of personal protective equipment, to perform maintenance services quickly, usually during "off periods" to minimize the customer's production downtime.

SURFACE REMEDIATION. Surface remediation projects arise in two principal areas: the planned cleanup of hazardous waste sites and the cleanup of

accidental spills and discharges of hazardous materials, such as those resulting from transportation and industrial accidents. In addition, some surface remediation projects involve the cleanup and maintenance of industrial lagoons, ponds and other surface impoundments on a recurring basis. In all of these cases, an extremely broad range of hazardous substances may be encountered.

Surface remediation projects generally require considerable interaction among technical and project management services. Following the selection of the preferred remedial alternative, the project team identifies the processes and equipment for cleanup. Simultaneously, the Company's health and safety staff develops a site safety plan for the project. Remedial approaches usually include physical removal, mechanical dewatering and stabilization, or encapsulation.

GROUNDWATER RESTORATION. The Company's groundwater restoration services typically involve response to above-ground spills, leaking underground tanks and lines, hazardous waste landfills, and leaking surface impoundments. Groundwater restoration efforts often require complex recovery systems, including recovery drains or wells, air strippers, biodegradation or carbon filtration systems, and containment barriers. These systems and technologies can be used individually or in combination to remove a full range of floating or dissolved organic compounds from groundwater. The Company designs and fabricates mobile or fixed site groundwater treatment systems.

SITE AND FACILITY DECONTAMINATION. Site and facility decontamination involves the cleanup and restoration of buildings, equipment, and other sites and facilities that have been contaminated by exposure to hazardous materials during a manufacturing process, or by fires, process malfunctions, spills or other accidents. The Company's projects have included decontamination of electrical generating stations,

5

electrical and electronics components, transformer vaults, and commercial, educational, industrial, laboratory, research and manufacturing facilities.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE. The Company undertakes environmental remediation projects on both a planned and emergency basis. Emergency response actions may develop into planned remedial action projects when soil, groundwater, buildings or facilities are extensively contaminated. The Company has established specially trained emergency response teams which operate on a 24-hour basis from service centers covering 23 states and Puerto Rico. Many of the Company's remediation activities result from a response to an emergency situation by one of its response teams. These incidents can result from transportation accidents involving chemical substances, fires at chemical facilities or hazardous waste sites, transformer fires or explosions involving PCBs, and other unanticipated developments when the substances involved pose an immediate threat to public health or the environment, such as possible groundwater contamination.

Emergency response projects require trained personnel, equipped with protective gear and specialized equipment, prepared to respond promptly whenever these situations occur. To meet the staffing requirements for emergency response projects, the Company relies in part upon a network of trained personnel who are available on a contract basis for specific project assignments. The Company's health and safety specialists and other skilled personnel assist field managers in supervising these projects during and subsequent to the cleanup. The steps performed by the Company include rapid response, containment and control procedures, analytical testing and assessment, neutralization and treatment, collection, and transportation of the substances to an appropriate treatment or disposal facility.

CLEANPACK-REGISTERED TRADEMARK- SERVICES

The Company provides specialized repackaging, treatment and disposal services for laboratory wastes, outdated chemicals, and household hazardous wastes. Such chemicals and wastes are put into lab pack containers for shipment and disposal. The Company offers generators of laboratory wastes the same economical and environmentally sound disposal services that have been offered for years to large industrial generators. The CleanPack-Registered Trademark-

operation services a wide variety of customers, including:

- -- pharmaceutical companies;
- -- engineering, and research and development divisions of industrial companies;
- -- college, university and high school laboratories;
- -- EPA laboratories and Veterans Administration facilities;
- -- hospitals and medical care laboratories;
- -- state and local municipalities; and
- -- thousands of residents through household hazardous waste collection days.

The Company provides a team of qualified and trained personnel to collect, label and package waste at the customer's site. Lab packed wastes are then transported to one of the Company's facilities for consolidation into full-size containers, which are then sent for further treatment or disposal as part of the Company's treatment and disposal services described above. As described above, disposal options include recycling, reclamation, fuels blending, incineration, aqueous treatment, and secure chemical landfill.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical services consist primarily of analytical testing, site characterization, remediation and personnel training. The Company's analytical testing laboratories assist in performing a wide range of quantitative and qualitative analyses to assist in determining the existence, nature, level, and extent of contamination in various media. The Company's site remediation staff identifies, evaluates and implements the appropriate environmental solution.

SITE REMEDIATION AND TECHNICAL SERVICES. The Company provides technical capabilities and operational expertise to manage large-scale environmental projects. The interdisciplinary teams of managers,

6

geologists, chemists, engineers, scientists, technicians, and compliance experts design and implement solution-oriented remedial programs incorporating both off-site and on-site treatment. The areas of expertise include:

- -- remedial investigations;
- -- remediation technologies: design, fabrication, installation, and operations and maintenance;
- -- decontamination and decommissioning operations; and
- -- high hazard materials handling.

The Company operates a state-certified analytical testing laboratory at its waste handling facility in Braintree, Massachusetts, which tests samples provided by customers to identify and quantify toxic pollutants. The laboratory staff evaluates the properties of a given material, selects appropriate analytical methods, and executes a laboratory work plan that results in a comprehensive technical report.

The Company also maintains laboratories at its other principal waste management facilities to identify and characterize waste materials prior to acceptance for treatment and disposal.

PERSONNEL TRAINING. The Company provides comprehensive personnel training programs for its own employees and for its customers on a commercial basis. Such programs are designed to promote safe work practices under potential hazardous environmental conditions, whether or not toxic chemicals are present, in compliance with stringent regulations promulgated under the Federal Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 ("RCRA") and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act ("OSHA"). The Company's Technical Training Center includes confined space entry, exit, extraction, equipment, an air-system demonstration maze, respirator fit testing room, leak and spill response equipment, and a layout of a mock decontamination zone, all designed to fulfill the requirements of OSHA Hazardous Waste and Emergency Response Standard.

SEASONALITY

The Company's operations may be affected by seasonal fluctuations due to weather and budgetary cycles influencing the timing of customers' spending for remedial activities. Typically during the first quarter of each year there is less demand for environmental services due to the cold weather, particularly in the Northeast and Midwest regions. In addition, factory closings for the year-end holidays reduce the volume of industrial waste generated, which results in lower volumes of waste handled by the Company during the first quarter of the following year.

CUSTOMERS

The Company's sales efforts are directed toward establishing and maintaining relationships with businesses which have ongoing requirements for one or more of the Company's services. The Company's customer list includes many of the largest industrial companies in the United States. In addition, the Company's customers include most of the major utilities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. The Company's customers are primarily chemical, petroleum, transportation, utility and industrial firms, other waste management companies and government agencies. Management believes that the Company's diverse customer base, in terms of number, industry and geographic location, as well as its large presence in New England, provide it with a recurring revenue base. The Company estimates that more than 80% of its revenues are derived from previously served customers with recurring needs for the Company's services. For the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996 and 1995, no single customer accounted for more than five percent of the Company's revenues. The Company believes the loss of any single customer would not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

Although the Company's customer base is diverse, two industries each provided over 10% of the Company's revenue in 1997. Approximately 15% of the Company's revenues in 1997 were from the chemical and allied products industry, while approximately 13% were from the electric, gas and sanitary industry. In 1996, two industries each provided over 10% of the Company's revenue. Approximately 19%

7

of the Company's revenues in 1996 were from the chemical and allied products industry, while approximately 14% were from the electric, gas and sanitary industry. In addition to serving industrial customers such as utilities, railroads, pipelines, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and chemical companies, the Company serves health care and educational institutions, federal, state and local governmental bodies, and thousands of small quantity generators.

Under applicable environmental laws and regulations, generators of hazardous wastes retain legal liability for the proper handling of those wastes up to and including their ultimate disposal. In response to these potential concerns, many large generators of industrial wastes and other purchasers of waste management services (such as general contractors on major remediation projects) have decreased the number of providers they use for such services. The Company has been selected as an approved vendor by large generators because the Company possess comprehensive collection, recycling, treatment, transportation, disposal, and waste tracking capabilities and has the expertise necessary to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations. By becoming an approved vendor for a large waste generator or other purchaser, the Company becomes eligible to provide waste management services to the multiple plants and projects of each generator or purchaser located in the Company's service areas. However, in order to obtain such approved vendor status, it may be necessary for the Company to bid against other qualified competitors in terms of the services

and pricing to be provided. Furthermore, large generators or other purchasers of waste management services often periodically audit the Company's facilities and operations to ensure that the Company's waste management services are being performed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and within other criteria established by the Company and by such customers.

COMPLIANCE/HEALTH & SAFETY

The Company regards compliance with applicable environmental regulations, and the health and safety of its workforce as critical components of its overall operations. The Company strives to maintain the highest professional standards in its compliance, and health and safety activities; its internal operating requirements are in many instances more stringent than those imposed by regulation. The Company's compliance program has been developed for each of its waste management facilities and service centers under the direction of the Company's corporate compliance, health and safety, and training staffs. The compliance, health and safety, and training staffs are responsible for facilities permitting and regulatory compliance, health and safety, field safety, compliance training, transportation compliance, and related record keeping. The Company also performs periodic audits and inspections of the disposal facilities of other firms utilized by the Company.

The Company's treatment, storage and recovery facilities are frequently inspected and audited by regulatory agencies, as well as by customers. Although the Company's facilities have been cited on occasion for regulatory violations, the Company believes that each facility is currently in substantial compliance with applicable requirements. Major facilities and service centers have a full-time compliance, or health and safety representative to oversee the implementation of the Company's compliance program at the facility or service center. These highly-trained regulatory specialists are independent from operations and report to the Director of Environmental, Health & Safety, who in turn reports directly to the CEO.

ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

The Company operates facilities that treat or store hazardous waste. Such facilities must obtain a RCRA license from the EPA, or an authorized state agency, and must comply with certain operating requirements. The EPA has developed a system for assessing the relative environmental clean-up priority of RCRA facilities called the National Corrective Action Prioritization System, with a High, Medium or Low ranking for each facility. None of the Company's RCRA facilities have been assessed a high priority.

The following table summarizes non-reimbursed environmental remediation expenditures capitalized and expenses incurred, relating to RCRA facilities, for the year ended December 31, (in thousands):

	1997	1996	1995
Environmental expenditures capitalized.....	\$ 564	\$ 420	\$ 559
Environmental expenses incurred.....	256	176	231
	\$ 820	\$ 596	\$ 790

Although further investigation may cause a change in estimate, the Company expects remediation expenditures of the magnitude incurred for the last three years to continue for the foreseeable future. The Company believes that environmental cleanup can be financed out of operations and that compliance with environmental laws will not adversely affect its competitive position.

MANAGEMENT OF RISKS

The Company adheres to a program of risk management policies and practices designed to reduce potential liability, as well as to manage customers' ongoing environmental exposures. This program includes installation of risk management systems at the Company's facilities, such as fire suppression, employee training, environmental auditing, and policy decisions restricting the types of wastes handled. The Company evaluates all revenue opportunities and declines those which it believes involve unacceptable risks. The Company frequently utilizes specialty subcontractors to handle any such materials when discovered at a job site.

The Company disposes of its wastes at the Company's Kimball incineration facility and facilities owned and operated by firms which the Company has audited and approved. Typically, the Company applies established technologies to the treatment, storage and recovery of hazardous wastes. The Company believes its operations are conducted in a safe and prudent manner and in substantial compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

INSURANCE

The Company's insurance programs cover the potential risks associated with its multifaceted operations from two primary exposures: direct physical damage and third-party liability. The Company maintains a casualty insurance program providing coverage for vehicles, workers' compensation, employer's liability, and comprehensive general liability in the aggregate amount of \$30,000,000 per year, subject to a retention of \$250,000 per occurrence, except for general liability where the retention is \$500,000 per occurrence. The workers' compensation limits are established by state statutes. Since the early 1980s, casualty insurance policies have typically excluded liability for pollution, which is covered under a separate pollution liability program.

The Company has pollution liability insurance policies covering the Company's potential risk in three areas: as a contractor performing services at customer sites, as a transporter of waste, and as it handles waste at the Company's facilities. The Company has contractor's liability insurance of \$10,000,000 per occurrence and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate, covering off-site remedial activities and associated liabilities. Lloyds of London provides pollution liability coverage for waste in-transit with single occurrence and aggregate liability limits of \$29,000,000. This Lloyds of London policy covers liability in excess of \$1,000,000 for pollution caused by sudden and accidental occurrences during transportation of waste and at the Company's facilities, from the time waste is picked up from a customer until its delivery to the final disposal site. The Company's \$30,000,000 excess automobile liability insurance provides additional coverage for any in-transit pollution losses from accidents over and above the Lloyds of London coverage, so that it has a total of \$59,000,000 of in-transit coverage.

9

Federal and state regulations require liability insurance coverage for all facilities that treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste. In 1989, the Company established a captive insurance company pursuant to the Federal Risk Retention Act of 1986. This company qualifies as a licensed insurance company and is authorized to write professional liability and pollution liability insurance for the Company and its operating subsidiaries. RCRA, the Toxic Substances Control Act and comparable state hazardous waste regulations typically require hazardous waste handling facilities to maintain pollution liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate per year for sudden occurrences and \$3,000,000 per occurrence and \$6,000,000 in the aggregate per year for non-sudden occurrences. Currently, the Company uses its captive insurance company to provide (i) the first \$1,000,000 of insurance against liability from sudden and non-sudden occurrences at its facilities, with the excess coverage provided by Lloyds of London, and (ii) the full policy limits of \$3,000,000 per occurrence, \$6,000,000 aggregate, of insurance for non-sudden occurrences.

Operators of hazardous waste handling facilities are also required by federal and state regulations to provide financial assurance for closure and

post-closure care of those facilities, should the facility cease operation. Closure would include the cost of removing the waste stored at a facility which ceased operating, and sending the material to another company for disposal. The Company has obtained surety bonds to provide such financial assurance for closure of the waste management facilities it currently owns, with the exception of the Kimball incinerator which has closure and post-closure insurance provided by a commercial insurer.

The Company's ability to continue conducting its industrial waste management operations could be adversely affected if the Company should become unable to obtain sufficient insurance to meet its business and regulatory requirements in the future. The availability of insurance may also be influenced by developments within the insurance industry, although other businesses in the industrial waste management industry would be similarly impacted by such developments.

Under the Company's insurance programs, coverage is obtained for catastrophic exposures, as well as, those risks required to be insured by law or contract. It is the policy of the Company to retain a significant portion of certain expected losses related primarily to workers' compensation, physical loss to property, and comprehensive general and vehicle liability. Provisions for losses expected under these programs are recorded based upon the Company's estimates of the aggregate liability for claims. The Company believes that policy cancellation terms are similar to those of other companies in other industries.

COMPETITION

The Company competes with numerous large and small companies, each of which is able to provide one or more of the industrial waste management services offered by the Company and some of which have access to greater financial resources. The Company believes it offers a more comprehensive range of industrial waste management services than its competitors in major portions of its service territory. The Company also believes that its ability to provide comprehensive services constitutes a significant competitive advantage for the Company.

Treatment and disposal operations are conducted by a number of national and regional waste management firms. The Company believes that the ability to collect and transport waste products efficiently, quality of service, safety, and pricing are the most significant factors in the market for treatment and disposal services.

In field services, the Company's competitors include major national and regional environmental services firms, as well as numerous smaller local firms. The availability of skilled technical professional personnel, quality of performance, diversity of services and price are the key competitive factors.

EMPLOYEES

As of March 19, 1998, the Company employed 1,129 people on a regular basis. None of the Company's employees is subject to a collective bargaining agreement, and the Company believes that its relationship with its employees is satisfactory.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The properties of the Company consist primarily of its 12 waste management facilities and 12 service centers, various environmental remediation equipment, and a fleet of approximately 750 registered pieces of transportation equipment. Most service center locations are leased, and occasionally move to other locations as operations and space requirements change. All of the waste management facilities are owned by the Company, except (i) the Chicago hazardous waste management facility which is leased under a lease which (with extensions) expires September 2020, (ii) the Woburn, Massachusetts waste oil treatment and storage facility which is leased under a lease which (with extensions) expires February 2004, and (iii) the Virginia waste oil treatment and storage facility

which is leased under a lease which (with extensions) expires February 2002. In connection with the placement of an industrial revenue bond in 1996, the Company entered into a facilities lease with the City of Kimball, Nebraska, whereby the City acquired a leasehold interest in the Kimball incinerator and the Company leased the incinerator back from the City. The Company retains title to the incinerator.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES. The Company operates hazardous waste management facilities at which it processes, treats and temporarily stores hazardous wastes for later resale, reuse, or off-site treatment or disposal. Every facility that treats, stores or disposes of hazardous wastes must obtain a license from the federal EPA or an authorized state agency and must comply with certain operating requirements. See "Environmental Regulation-Federal Regulation of Hazardous Waste" below for a description of licenses issued under RCRA. All of the Company's hazardous waste management facilities are subject to RCRA licensing and have been issued RCRA Part B licenses, except for one interim status facility.

Two of the facilities described above are waste oil treatment and storage facilities, which are subject to RCRA licensing, because some petroleum products, such as gasoline, are considered hazardous waste under federal law or are located in a state which regulates waste oil as a hazardous waste. In order to handle a variety of waste oil and petroleum products and support its field service activities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions, the Company has obtained or applied for RCRA licenses for those two facilities.

The Company has made substantial modifications and improvements to the physical plant, and treatment and process equipment in recent years at its treatment facilities. These modifications are consistent with the Company's strategy to upgrade the quality and efficiency of treatment services, to expand the range of services provided, and to ensure regulatory compliance and operating efficiencies at these facilities. Major features of this program are the addition of new treatment systems, such as the CES in Baltimore, expansion of analytical testing laboratories, drum storage and processing facilities, and equipment rearrangement and replacement to improve operating efficiency. Further, the Company believes that it can, with minor modifications at its plants, make changes such that the existing plants would be able to process significantly increased volumes of hazardous wastes and that no new facilities will be required.

Chicago, IL. The Chicago, Illinois facility is located on the south side of Chicago, on Lake Calumet. It provides treatment of nonhazardous and hazardous industrial wastewaters, hazardous waste fuels blending, drummed waste processing and consolidation, and transfer and repackaging of laboratory chemicals into lab pack containers. In November 1993, the Illinois EPA issued a Part B license for a ten-year term, which significantly expanded the waste handling and storage capacity of the facility.

In November, 1995, the Company acquired assets from Chemical Waste Management, Inc. ("ChemWaste") on an adjoining leased site, together with the existing improvements, in exchange for sharing the costs of dismantling an existing hazardous waste incinerator and cleaning up the adjoining site. The existing improvements on the ChemWaste site, and other improvements completed from 1995 through 1997 by the Company, have expanded the waste storage and handling capabilities at the Chicago plant. The

Chicago facility also serves as the central receiving, processing and transshipment facility for the CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- program. Waste materials are shipped via rail and truck to Chicago from all other Company facilities. The waste materials are either treated or processed for transshipment in Chicago.

Under the sharing arrangement with ChemWaste, the Company could over a period of 15 years be required to contribute up to a maximum of \$2,000,000 for dismantling and decontaminating the incinerator and other equipment, and up to a maximum of \$7,000,000 for studies and cleanup of the site. Any additional costs

beyond those contemplated by the sharing arrangement during this time period would be borne by ChemWaste. The Company believes that it can appropriately capitalize the expenditures in excess of amounts accrued that are required to clean up the property. In addition, the Company entered into a five year disposal services agreement with ChemWaste in connection with the acquisition of the assets on the adjacent site. Pursuant to the terms of the disposal services agreement, the Company has agreed to use best efforts to deliver waste materials to ChemWaste facilities for disposal subject to certain customer preferences, scheduling and other considerations.

Kimball, NE. In May 1995, the Company acquired a newly constructed hazardous waste incinerator in Kimball, Nebraska from Ecova Corporation, an affiliate of Amoco Oil Company. The Kimball facility includes a 45,000 ton-per-year fluidized bed thermal oxidation unit for maximum destruction efficiency of hazardous waste. The incinerator has a RCRA Part B license issued by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality ("NDEQ"). This permit will expire in November 1998. The Company expects that a new RCRA and air permit will be issued by NDEQ in 1999; however, the Company expects to be able to operate the facility under its existing permit until the new permit is issued.

The incinerator is located on a 600 acre site, which includes a landfill for disposal of incinerator ash. If the chemical composition of the ash meets the permit requirements, which is subject to verification before it is landfilled on-site, the ash will be classified as "delisted", meaning it will no longer be regulated as a hazardous waste under federal and state laws. Although the ash will be classified as nonhazardous, the landfill has been constructed to meet RCRA Subtitle C standards, which are the same stringent requirements as for landfills designed to handle hazardous waste.

As part of the acquisition, the Company agreed to make royalty payments to Ecova Corporation through 2004, based on the number of tons processed at the facility.

Braintree, MA. The Braintree facility is located just south of Boston. The facility is primarily engaged in drummed waste processing and consolidation, solvent recovery, transformer decommissioning, PCB storage and processing, blending of waste used as supplemental fuel by industrial furnaces, and pretreatment of waste to stabilize it before it is sent to landfills. The facility was acquired by the Company in 1985 and operates under a state Interim Hazardous Waste Facility License issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") in 1981. In June 1992, the DEP approved the Company's application for a final Hazardous Waste Facility License and issued a final Part B license. The Town of Braintree filed an appeal to the permit which was withdrawn in December 1997.

Natick, MA. The Natick, Massachusetts facility is located just west of Boston. The facility is currently on standby, but the Company plans to utilize the facility in the near term for storing and repackaging lab pack containers. The facility has a state Hazardous Waste Facility License (the state equivalent of a Part B license), which was renewed in October 1994 for a five-year term. The facility is also authorized by the federal EPA to handle PCBs.

Cleveland, OH. The Cleveland, Ohio facility is located south of downtown Cleveland. It is a wastewater treatment facility that treats nonhazardous and hazardous industrial wastewaters, and it serves as a transfer station for various types of containerized hazardous and nonhazardous waste. The facility is not subject to Part B licensing requirements, since its on-site wastewater treatment activities are regulated pursuant to the Clean Water Act, and therefore are exempt from RCRA.

Baltimore, MD. The Baltimore, Maryland facility is located in central Baltimore. It provides treatment of nonhazardous and hazardous industrial aqueous wastes, treatment of "lean waters" through the CES process, drummed waste processing, waste stabilization, and transfer of lab pack containers. The facility has a state Controlled Hazardous Substances permit (the state equivalent of a Part B license), which was last issued in 1992 for a three-year

term. The permit also allows handling of material destined for fuels-blending and rail shipment of hazardous and nonhazardous waste. In June 1995, the Company submitted a permit renewal application, which allows operations to continue until the renewal application is approved.

Bristol, CT. The facility is located in Bristol, Connecticut, approximately 20 miles southwest of Hartford. It provides hazardous wastewater treatment, drummed waste processing and consolidation, and transfer of lab pack containers. This facility also provides treatment of special categories of hazardous wastewaters known as "listed" wastewaters resulting from industrial processes such as electroplating. The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection renewed the Part B license in 1995 for a five year term.

Cincinnati, OH. The facility is located north of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. It provides hazardous wastewater treatment, drummed waste processing and consolidation, pretreatment of waste to stabilize it before it is sent to landfills, fuels blending, and transfer of lab pack containers. The facility is also authorized to handle PCBs. The facility holds a state Hazardous Waste Facility Installation and Operation permit (RCRA Part B) which was renewed in December 1993 for a five-year term, and a federal permit under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments to RCRA issued in December 1996. In May 1995, the Ohio Hazardous Waste Facility Board approved the transfer of the facility hazardous waste permit from the former owner of the facility to the Company.

WASTE OIL TREATMENT AND STORAGE FACILITIES. The Company has four waste oil treatment and storage facilities: two in Massachusetts, one in Maine and one in Virginia. The Massachusetts facilities are located in Kingston and Woburn, in the Boston area. The Kingston facility has a state recycling permit and is able to store oil collected from various activities, ranging from routine cleaning of oil storage terminals to oil spill cleanups. The facility is also used for maintenance activities, and for training of employees of the Company and third-party customers. The Woburn facility is a waste oil storage and transfer facility, and received a Part B license in October 1993 for a five-year term. The Company expects to be able to operate using the existing permit until a new permit is issued.

The facility in South Portland, Maine is a petroleum reclamation facility that handles most of the waste oil received by the Company, which comes primarily from the Company's remediation activities. It has a municipal sewer user permit allowing the discharge of water separated from oil. The Company also owns another property on Main Street in South Portland, which has a license to store virgin oil, and it is also permitted for the temporary storage and transfer of containerized hazardous waste.

The Virginia facility is located near Richmond and was acquired in September 1994. The facility is able to store waste oil and gasoline-contaminated hazardous wastes collected from various activities, ranging from routine cleaning of oil storage terminals to oil spill cleanups. The facility operates under RCRA interim status pending the final review of its application for a Part B license.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

While the Company's business has benefited substantially from increased governmental regulation of hazardous waste transportation, storage and disposal, the industrial waste management industry itself has become the subject of extensive and evolving regulation by federal, state and local authorities. The Company makes a continuing effort to anticipate regulatory, political and legal developments that might affect its operations, but is not always able to do so. The Company cannot predict the extent to which any environmental legislation or regulation that may be enacted or enforced in the future may affect its operations.

In late 1995, the EPA proposed to amend its hazardous waste regulations by establishing constituent-specific exit levels known as "bright line" levels for low-risk solid wastes that are designated as hazardous because they are listed,

or have been mixed with, derived from, or contain listed hazardous wastes. Under the proposal, the Hazardous Waste Identification Rule ("HWIR"), generators of listed hazardous wastes that meet the bright-line levels would no longer be subject to the hazardous waste management system under Subtitle C of RCRA as listed hazardous wastes. If adopted, it is believed that the HWIR could adversely impact the Company's incinerator in Kimball, since many wastes which are currently required to be managed as hazardous wastes may no longer require incineration at a RCRA incineration unit such as Kimball. However, in October 1997, USEPA stated that, due to public comment, the Agency would not be finalizing major portions of the HWIR, including the bright-line levels.

The Company is required to obtain federal, state and local licenses, or approvals for each of its hazardous waste facilities. Such licenses are difficult to obtain and, in many instances, extensive studies, tests, and public hearings are required before the approvals can be issued. The Company has acquired all operating licenses and approvals now required for the current operation of its business, and has applied for or is in the process of applying for, all licenses and approvals needed in connection with continued operation and planned expansion or modifications of its operations.

FEDERAL REGULATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

The most significant federal environmental laws affecting the Company are RCRA, the Superfund Act and the Clean Water Act.

RCRA. RCRA is the principal federal statute governing hazardous waste generation, treatment, transportation, storage and disposal. Pursuant to RCRA, the EPA has established a comprehensive, "cradle-to-grave" system for the management of a wide range of materials identified as hazardous waste. States, such as Massachusetts, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio and Nebraska, that have adopted hazardous waste management programs with standards at least as stringent as those promulgated by the EPA, have been authorized by the EPA to administer their facility permitting programs in lieu of the EPA's program.

Every facility that treats, stores or disposes of hazardous waste must obtain a RCRA license from the EPA or an authorized state agency, and must comply with certain operating requirements. Under RCRA, hazardous waste management facilities in existence on November 19, 1980 were required to submit a preliminary license application to the EPA, the so-called Part A Application. By virtue of this filing, a facility obtained Interim Status, allowing it to operate until licensing proceedings are instituted pursuant to more comprehensive and exacting regulations (the Part B licensing process). Interim Status facilities may continue to operate pursuant to the Part A Application until their Part B licensing process is concluded. Of the Company's 12 waste management facilities, nine are subject to RCRA licensing; of the nine, only the Virginia waste oil facility operates under interim status. The other eight have been issued Part B licenses.

RCRA requires that Part B licenses contain provisions for required on-site study and cleanup activities, known as "corrective action," including detailed compliance schedules and provisions for assurance of financial responsibility. The EPA has developed a system for assessing the relative environmental cleanup priority of RCRA facilities, called the National Corrective Action Prioritization System, with a High, Medium or Low ranking for each facility. Although several facilities of its competitors have been assessed a High cleanup priority, none of the Company's RCRA facilities have been assessed as a High priority.

The Company has begun RCRA corrective action investigations at its Part B licensed facilities in Braintree, Natick, Chicago, Cincinnati, and Woburn. The Company is also involved in site studies at its non-RCRA facilities in Cleveland, Ohio; Kingston, Massachusetts; and on Main Street in South Portland, Maine. Corrective action at the Bristol, Connecticut, facility was completed in 1996. The Company spent

foregoing facilities for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996 and 1995, respectively.

The Company is also involved in a RCRA corrective action investigation at a site in Chester, Pennsylvania owned by PECO Energy Company ("PECO"). The site consists of approximately 30 acres which PECO had leased to various companies over the years. In 1989, the Company acquired by merger a public company named ChemClear Inc., which operated a hazardous waste treatment facility on approximately eight acres of the Chester site leased from PECO. The Company ceased operations at the Chester site, decontaminated the plant and equipment, engaged an independent engineer to certify closure, and obtained final approval from the Pennsylvania regulatory authorities, certifying final closure of the facility. In 1993, the EPA ordered PECO to perform a RCRA corrective action investigation at the Chester site. PECO asked the Company to participate in the site studies, and in October 1994, the Company agreed to be responsible for seventy-five percent of the cost of these studies, which is estimated to be in the range of \$2,000,000, by, among other things, performing field services work and analytical services required to complete the site studies and providing other environmental services to PECO at discounted rates.

While the final scope of the work to be performed at these sites has not yet been agreed upon, the Company believes, based upon information known to date about the nature and extent of contamination at these sites, that accruals have been established when required and such costs are not expected to have a material effect on its results of operations or its competitive position, and that it will be able to finance from operating revenue any additional corrective action required at the sites.

The Bristol, Connecticut and Cincinnati, Ohio facilities were acquired from a subsidiary of Southdown, Inc. Southdown Inc. has agreed to indemnify the Company against any costs incurred or liability arising from contamination on-site, including the cost of corrective action, or waste disposed of off-site, including any liability under the Superfund Act, at those facilities.

THE SUPERFUND ACT. The Superfund Act provides for immediate response and removal actions coordinated by the EPA to releases of hazardous substances into the environment, and authorizes the government to respond to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances or to order persons responsible for any such release to perform any necessary cleanup. The statute assigns joint and several liability for these responses and other related costs, including the cost of damage to natural resources, to the parties involved in the generation, transportation and disposal of such hazardous substances. Under the statute, the Company may be deemed liable as a generator or transporter of a hazardous substance which is released into the environment, or as the owner or operator of a facility from which there is a release of a hazardous substance into the environment. See also "Business-Legal Proceedings."

CLEAN WATER ACT. This legislation prohibits discharges into the waters of the United States without governmental authorization. The EPA has promulgated "pretreatment" regulations under the Clean Water Act, which establish pretreatment standards for introduction of pollutants into publicly owned treatment works. In the course of its treatment process, the Company's wastewater treatment facilities generate waste water, which they discharge to publicly owned treatment works pursuant to permits issued by the appropriate governmental authority. The Clean Water Act also serves to create business opportunities for the Company, in that, it may prevent industrial users from discharging their untreated wastewaters to the sewer. If these industries cannot meet their discharge specifications, then they may utilize the services of an off-site pretreatment facility such as those operated by the Company.

OTHER FEDERAL LAWS. Company operations are also subject to the Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA"), pursuant to which the EPA regulates over 60,000 commercially produced chemical substances, including the proper disposal of PCBs. TSCA has established a comprehensive regulatory program for PCBs, under the jurisdiction of the EPA, which oversees the storage, treatment and disposal of PCBs at the Company's facilities in Braintree and Natick, Massachusetts; Cincinnati, Ohio; and Bristol, Connecticut. Under the Clean Air Act, the EPA also regulates emissions into the air of potentially harmful substances.

In its transportation operations, the Company is regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Railroad Administration, and the U.S. Coast Guard, as well as by the regulatory agencies of each state in which it operates or through which its trucks pass. Health and safety standards under the Occupational Safety and Health Act are also applicable.

STATE AND LOCAL REGULATIONS

Pursuant to the EPA's authorization of their RCRA equivalent programs, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio, and Nebraska have regulatory programs governing the operations and permitting of hazardous waste facilities. Accordingly, the hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal activities of the Company's Braintree, Natick, Woburn, Bristol, Chicago, Baltimore, Cincinnati, and Kimball facilities are regulated by the relevant state agencies in addition to federal EPA regulation.

Some states, such as Connecticut and Massachusetts, classify as hazardous some wastes which are not regulated under RCRA. For example, Massachusetts considers PCBs and used oil as "hazardous wastes," while RCRA does not. Accordingly, the Company must comply with state requirements for handling state regulated wastes, and, when necessary, obtain state licenses for treating, storing, and disposing of such wastes at its facilities.

The Company believes that each of its facilities is in substantial compliance with the applicable requirements of RCRA, state laws and regulations. Eleven of the Company's twelve waste management facilities have been issued final licenses. The Richmond facility operates under interim status. Once issued, such licenses have maximum fixed terms of a given number of years, which differ from state to state, ranging from three years to ten years. The issuing state agency may review or modify a license at any time during its term. The Company anticipates that once a license is issued with respect to a facility, the license will be renewed at the end of its term if the facility's operations are in compliance with applicable requirements. However, there can be no assurance that regulations governing future licensing will remain static, or that the Company will be able to comply with such requirements.

The Company's wastewater treatment facilities are also subject to state and local regulation, most significantly, sewer discharge regulations adopted by the municipalities, which receive treated wastewater from the treatment processes. The Company's continued ability to operate its liquid waste treatment process at each such facility is dependent upon its ability to continue these sewer discharges.

The Company's facilities are regulated pursuant to state statutes, including those addressing clean water and clean air. Local sewer discharge and flammable storage requirements are applicable to certain of the Company's facilities. The Company's facilities are subject to local siting, zoning and land use restrictions. Although the Company's facilities occasionally have been cited for regulatory violations, the Company believes it is in substantial compliance with all federal, state and local laws regulating its business.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Certain Company subsidiaries have transported or generated waste sent to sites, which have been designated state or federal Superfund sites. As a result, the Company has been named as a potentially responsible party ("PRP") in a number of lawsuits arising from the disposal of wastes at 22 state and federal Superfund sites.

Eleven of these sites involve two subsidiaries, which the Company acquired from ChemWaste, which is a subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc. As part of the acquisition, ChemWaste agreed to indemnify the Company with respect to any liability of its Natick and Braintree subsidiaries for waste disposed of before the Company acquired them. Accordingly, ChemWaste is paying all costs of defending the Company's Natick and Braintree subsidiaries in these cases,

including legal fees and settlement costs.

16

The Company's subsidiary, which owns the Bristol, Connecticut facility, is involved in one Superfund site. As part of the acquisition of the Bristol, Connecticut and Cincinnati, Ohio facilities, the seller and its parent company, Southdown, Inc., agreed to indemnify the Company with respect to any liability for waste disposed of before the Company acquired the facilities, which would include any liability arising from Superfund sites.

Five of the sites involve former subsidiaries of ChemClear Inc. One of the five sites is the Strasburg Landfill site in Pennsylvania. The Company and two other parties identified as PRPs received an order from the EPA in 1989 to perform certain emergency measures at the site. The Company responded by installing a leachate treatment and discharge system and repairing the landfill slope. Since early 1990, the Company spent approximately \$450,000 in complying with the EPA order. In 1992, the EPA issued its Record of Decision for the site which proposes recapping and revegetating the landfill and installing certain air emission and leachate treatment systems. The EPA has advised the PRP group that it plans to utilize Superfund monies to design and implement the remedy specified in the Record of Decision for the site, and initiate a cost recovery action for its past costs in the amount of approximately \$6,000,000. The EPA indicated that the future remediation costs are estimated to be \$11,000,000. In January 1996, the Company and 16 other PRPs signed a standstill and tolling agreement with the EPA which has been extended ten times and which now allows for settlement discussions to take place up to April 30, 1998. In March, 1997, the Company and eight other PRPs submitted a revised settlement offer of \$2.5 million to the government, which has been tentatively accepted by the government pending negotiation of the consent order. In February 1996, the Company filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania against certain PRP's in order to preserve its claims for cost recovery and contribution against those parties. In January 1998, the Company filed its settlement agreement with the Court. The Company believes its ultimate exposure in this case will not have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

Mr. Frank, Inc., which was acquired by the Company in July 1992, is involved in three Superfund sites, as a transporter of waste generated by others prior to the Company's purchase of Mr. Frank, Inc. The Company acquired Mr. Frank, Inc. in exchange for 233,000 shares of the Company's common stock, of which 33,222 shares were deposited into an escrow account to be held as security for the sellers' agreement to indemnify the Company against potential liabilities, including environmental liabilities arising from prior ownership and operation of Mr. Frank, Inc. The Company has been recently identified as a PRP at two sites, at which the Company believes that it has no liability.

With respect to the Superfund sites at which the Company believes it may face liability, the Company has established reserves or escrows which it believes are appropriate. Therefore, the Company believes that any future settlement costs arising from any or all of the 22 Superfund sites will not be material to the Company's operations or financial position. Management routinely reviews each Superfund site in which the Company's subsidiaries are involved, considers each subsidiary's role at each site and its relationship to the Company and other PRPs at the site, the quantity and content of the waste it disposed of at the site, and the number and financial capabilities of the other PRPs at the site. Based on reviews of the various sites and currently available information, and management's judgment and prior experience with similar situations, expense accruals are provided by the Company for its share of future site cleanup costs, and existing accruals are revised as necessary. As of December 31, 1997, the Company had accrued environmental costs of \$572,000 for cleanup of Superfund sites. Superfund legislation permits strict joint and several liability to be imposed without regard to fault, and, as a result, one PRP might be required to bear significantly more than its proportional share of the cleanup costs if other PRPs do not pay their share of such costs.

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

No matters were submitted to a vote of the Company's security holders during the fourth quarter of 1997.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The Company's common stock began trading publicly in the over-the-counter market on November 24, 1987 and was added to the NASDAQ National Market System effective December 15, 1987. The Company's common stock trades on The Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol: CLHB. The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices of the Company's common stock for the indicated periods as reported by NASDAQ.

1996	HIGH	LOW
First Quarter.....	\$ 3.875	\$ 2.375
Second Quarter.....	4.125	2.875
Third Quarter.....	3.375	1.500
Fourth Quarter.....	3.375	1.875

1997	HIGH	LOW
First Quarter.....	\$ 2.688	\$ 1.375
Second Quarter.....	1.813	1.188
Third Quarter.....	3.375	1.500
Fourth Quarter.....	2.750	1.438

On March 17, 1998 there were 829 holders of record of the Company's common stock, excluding stockholders whose shares were held in nominee name.

The Company has never declared nor paid any cash dividends on its common stock. In February 1993, the Board of Directors authorized the issuance of up to 156,416 shares designated as Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, with a cumulative dividend of 7% during the first year and 8% thereafter, payable either in cash or by the issuance of shares of common stock. 112,000 shares of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock (the "Preferred Stock") were issued on February 16, 1993 in partial payment of the purchase price for Spring Grove. Except for payment of dividends on the Preferred Stock, the Company intends to retain all earnings for use in the Company's business and therefore does not anticipate paying any cash dividends on its common stock in the foreseeable future. The Company's bank credit agreements contain financial covenants, which may effectively restrict or limit the payment of dividends other than Preferred Stock dividends. See Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Dividends on the Company's Preferred Stock are payable on the 15th day of January, April, July and October, at the rate of \$1.00 per share, per quarter; 112,000 shares are outstanding. Under the terms of the Preferred Stock, the Company can elect to pay dividends in cash or in common stock with a market value equal to the amount of the dividend payable. The Company elected to pay the 1997 dividends in common stock. The share price of the common stock and the shares of common stock issued to holders of preferred stock during 1997 were as follows:

RECORD DATE	SHARE PRICE	COMMON STOCK ISSUED
-----	-----	-----

January 1, 1997.....	\$ 2.05	54,637
April 1, 1997.....	1.58	70,888
July 1, 1997.....	1.63	68,714
October 1, 1997.....	1.99	56,284

The Company anticipates that the Preferred Stock dividends payable through 1998 will be paid in common stock.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected consolidated financial information should be reviewed in conjunction with Item 7--Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Item 8--Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this report.

OTHER INCOME. During 1997, the Company recorded a \$950,000 receivable in connection with the settlement of a lawsuit and incurred approximately \$150,000 in costs related to the litigation during the first quarter. The Company recognized a pre-tax gain, net of related legal fees, of \$800,000 resulting from the settlement, which is included in other income, net in the consolidated statement of income.

NONRECURRING CHARGES. During 1995, the Company recorded a \$4,247,000 nonrecurring charge in connection with the reengineering of the Company's operations and the write down of non-performing assets, as well as the anticipated losses on the sale of certain non-core properties. Under the reengineering program, the Company has closed or downsized small, satellite offices; reduced employment levels; downsized its laboratory staff and relocated the laboratory to its waste handling facility in Braintree, Massachusetts; and relocated its corporate headquarters to a new location in Braintree, Massachusetts. The components of the nonrecurring charge are as follows:

Severance and related costs.....	\$1,097,000
Write-off of non-performing asset.....	1,110,000
Real estate related charges.....	2,040,000

	\$4,247,000

During 1994, the Company renegotiated its lease on its corporate headquarters in Quincy, Massachusetts, such that the lease terminated in 1995. In addition, the Company vacated laboratory space in Bedford, Massachusetts. As a result, the Company took a one-time, noncash charge of \$1,035,000 before taxes for the write-off of leasehold improvements at the two locations.

EXTRAORDINARY ITEM. During 1994, the Company completed a public offering of \$50,000,000 of 12.50% Senior Notes, and used the net proceeds to prepay substantially all of the Company's debt, in order to refinance debt which had a 13.25% interest rate. The Company also wanted to reduce its reliance on floating rate bank debt, by extending the average life of its long-term debt and obtaining longer-term capital at an attractive fixed interest rate. The refinancing resulted in approximately \$2,043,000 of expense relating to the early retirement of the outstanding debt, and an extraordinary charge of \$1,220,000 (\$.13

per share), net of income tax benefit, for redemption premiums paid to the holders of the prepaid debt and for the write-off of deferred financing costs.

INCOME STATEMENT DATA:	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
(IN THOUSANDS EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)					
Revenues.....	\$ 183,767	\$ 200,213	\$ 209,250	\$ 207,073	\$ 200,114
Cost of revenues.....	140,542	154,608	156,779	146,132	134,525
Selling, general and administrative expenses.....	34,498	36,326	39,574	38,910	42,296
Depreciation and amortization of intangible assets...	9,228	9,827	10,081	10,250	10,319
Nonrecurring charges.....	--	--	4,247	1,035	--
Income (loss) from operations.....	(501)	(548)	(1,431)	10,746	12,974
Other income, net.....	800	--	--	--	--
Interest expense, net.....	9,182	9,170	8,657	7,432	7,198
Income (loss) before provision for income taxes and extraordinary item.....	(8,883)	(9,718)	(10,088)	3,314	5,776
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	4,845	(2,775)	(3,195)	1,619	2,645
Income (loss) before extraordinary item.....	(13,728)	(6,943)	(6,893)	1,695	3,131
Extraordinary loss related to early retirement of debt, net of income tax benefit of \$823,000.....	--	--	--	1,220	--
Net income (loss).....	\$ (13,728)	\$ (6,943)	\$ (6,893)	\$ 475	\$ 3,131
Basic EPS					
Net income (loss) per common share before extraordinary item.....	\$ (1.42)	\$ (.77)	\$ (.77)	\$.13	\$.30
Extraordinary item.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ (.13)	\$ --
Net income (loss) per share.....	\$ (1.42)	\$ (.77)	\$ (.77)	\$.00	\$.30
Diluted EPS					
Net income (loss) per common share before extraordinary item.....	\$ (1.42)	\$ (.77)	\$ (.77)	\$.13	\$.28
Extraordinary item.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ (.13)	\$ --
Net income (loss) per share.....	\$ (1.42)	\$ (.77)	\$ (.77)	\$.00	\$.28
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding.....	9,959	9,653	9,475	9,635	9,884
Financial Data:					
Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA).....	\$ 9,527	\$ 9,279	\$ 8,650	\$ 20,996	\$ 23,293
Working capital.....	\$ 11,759	\$ 14,245	\$ 11,053	\$ 20,814	\$ 18,320
Total assets.....	\$ 154,945	\$ 177,997	\$ 186,444	\$ 159,875	\$ 167,358
Long-term obligations, less current portion.....	\$ 68,020	\$ 68,668	\$ 70,391	\$ 60,465	\$ 62,507
Stockholders' equity.....	\$ 40,024	\$ 53,584	\$ 60,374	\$ 67,326	\$ 67,371

No cash dividends have been declared on the Company's common stock.

20

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated certain operating data associated with the Company's results of operations. This table and subsequent discussions should be read in conjunction with Item 6--Selected Financial Data and Item 8--Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this report.

	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUES				
	TWELVE-MONTH YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,				
	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Revenues.....	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of revenues:					
Disposal costs paid to third parties.....	13.9	13.8	15.4	13.5	15.4
Other costs.....	62.6	63.4	59.5	57.1	51.8
Total cost of revenues.....	76.5	77.2	74.9	70.6	67.2
Selling, general and administrative expenses.....	18.8	18.2	18.9	18.8	21.1
Depreciation and amortization of intangible assets.....	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.2
Nonrecurring charges.....	--	--	2.0	0.5	--
Income (loss) from operations.....	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.7)	5.2	6.5
Other income, net.....	0.4	--	--	--	--

Interest expense, net.....	5.0	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.6
Income (loss) before provision for income taxes and extraordinary item.....	(4.8)	(4.9)	(4.8)	1.6	2.9
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	2.6	(1.4)	(1.5)	0.8	1.3
Income (loss) before extraordinary item.....	(7.5)	(3.5)	(3.3)	0.8	1.6
Extraordinary loss from early retirement of debt.....	--	--	--	0.6	--
Net income (loss).....	(7.5)%	(3.5)%	(3.3)%	0.2%	1.6%

REVENUES. Revenues for 1997 were \$183,767,000 as compared to \$200,213,000 for 1996 and \$209,250,000 for 1995. The decrease in revenue in 1997 from 1996 was caused by a number of factors including, in particular, a decrease in event business and industry-wide pricing pressure. The Company defines event business as field services emergency response to an accident or cleanup of environmental contamination that is not expected to recur. Over the past several years, the event business has consistently produced revenue of approximately \$30,000,000 and included at least one major incident. In 1997, event business revenue was \$19,000,000; the Company attributes the reduction in event revenue to a decrease in the size of the event market in 1997, including no major spills in its service territory, rather than to reduction in market share. The Company can not predict whether or not this trend will continue into future periods. Total hours billed in the field services business in 1997 was flat from 1996; thus, the decreased business in emergency response was offset by an increase in base business. Pricing in the field services business decreased from the prior year by 6.0%, in large part due to the decrease in emergency response business, which tends to be at higher billable rates than other field services work. In the disposal business, revenue decreased due to a 4.0% decrease in volume and a 7.0% decrease in pricing.

During 1996, the Company received approximately \$7,000,000 of revenue from the cleanup of a large oil spill off the Maine coast. Excluding this event business, the revenue declined approximately 8.0% from

21

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

1995 to 1996. The revenue decline was the result of industry-wide pricing pressures and a decrease in the volumes of waste which were processed through the Company's facilities.

There are many factors which have impacted, and continue to impact, the Company's revenues. These factors include: competitive industry pricing; continued efforts by generators of hazardous waste to reduce the amount of hazardous waste they produce; significant consolidation among treatment and disposal companies; industry-wide overcapacity; direct shipment by generators of waste to the ultimate treatment or disposal location; and seasonal fluctuations due to weather and budgetary cycles influencing the timing of customers' spending for remedial activities.

The Company continues to take pricing actions in response to industry conditions, as it attempts to maintain a competitive mix of price, performance, and customer support services while attempting to return to profitability and growth. The Company attempts to mitigate the effects of price reductions by reducing operating costs. There can be no assurance that pricing actions will be effective in stimulating higher levels of sales or that cost reduction efforts will offset the effect of pricing actions on the Company's gross margin.

COST OF REVENUES. Cost of revenues were \$140,542,000 in 1997, \$154,608,000 in 1996 and \$156,779,000 in 1995. One of the largest components of cost of revenues is the cost of sending waste to other companies for disposal. The Company has been able to upgrade the quality and efficiency of its waste treatment services through the development of new technology, strategic acquisitions, and continued modifications and upgrades at its facilities. During the second quarter of 1995, the Company acquired an incinerator in Kimball,

Nebraska which provides the Company with incineration capabilities, thus reducing reliance on third parties.

Cost of revenues, as a percentage of revenues, was 76.5% in 1997, 77.2% in 1996 and 74.9% in 1995. Disposal costs as a percentage of revenue were 13.9%, 13.8% and 15.4% in 1997, 1996 and 1995, respectively. The cost of sending waste to third parties decreased by 7.0% for the year ended 1997 as compared to the year ended 1996; however, as a percentage of revenues, there was a slight increase from 13.8% to 13.9% due to revenue declines related to pricing being greater than the cost reductions achieved relating to outside disposal. Similarly, other costs of revenues decreased by 10.0% from 1996 to 1997; however, as a percentage of revenues, the decline was less due to revenue decreases due to pricing.

The cost of revenues, as a percentage of revenues, for 1996 as compared to 1995 is comprised of a decrease in outside disposal costs to 13.8% from 15.4% and an increase in other costs to 63.4% from 59.5%. The Company attributes the decrease in outside disposal costs to the addition of the Kimball incinerator, which allowed the Company to dispose of waste internally that had previously been sent to third parties. The increase in other costs from 1995 to 1996 is primarily due to the full year operating cost of the Kimball facility in 1996, versus a partial year in 1995, since the incinerator was acquired in the second quarter of 1995.

In 1996, the Company started implementation of its CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark-system. The implementation of this system will continue into 1998. The Company believes that the CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- system has resulted in, and will continue to result in, increased efficiencies relative to the collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of routinely created hazardous waste through its expanded and upgraded Chicago facility.

The nonrecurring charge of \$4,247,000 in 1995 resulted primarily from the reengineering program, which identified more efficient methods of servicing customers, as well as certain assets and field locations which were no longer integral to the Company's operations. The Company significantly reduced its cost structure. The reengineering and cost control efforts identified over \$10,000,000 in annual cost reductions, which were substantially realized in 1996. These savings, which were achieved in part through the

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

introduction of new computer systems, strengthened the Company's business processes, allowed disposition of non-core assets, and reduced the number of offices and the amount of rented space. Although the Company realized these savings during 1996, they were offset by reduction in pricing, lower volumes and other costs increasing. During 1997, the Company continued its process of consolidating common functions to reduce redundant costs and improve the Company's ability to deliver its services. The Company believes that its ability to continue to manage operating costs is an important factor in its ability to remain price competitive. However, no assurance can be given that the Company's efforts to manage future operating expenses will be successful.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. Selling, general and administrative expenses declined to \$34,498,000 in 1997 from \$36,326,000 in 1996 and \$39,574,000 in 1995. The 5.0% decrease from 1996 to 1997 was caused by a reduction in headcount among the general and administrative employees, and a reduction in virtually all other components of general and administrative expenses. These reductions were partially offset by increases in selling expense due to the expansion in the sales force and an increase in royalty expense related to Kimball plant volumes. The Company plans to continue to reduce costs in 1998; however, no assurance can be given that this objective will be accomplished.

The 8.2% decrease in selling, general and administrative expenses from 1995 to 1996 was the result of several cost cutting measures such as reducing

administrative staff, relocating the Company's corporate headquarters to a new office park and reducing discretionary spending.

INTEREST EXPENSE. Interest expense increased during 1997 to \$9,182,000 from \$9,170,000 in 1996 and \$8,657,000 in 1995. The slight increase in interest expense in 1997 as compared to 1996 is due to higher interest rates on some debt in 1997 as compared to 1996, which was partially offset by a reduction in the average debt outstanding in 1997 as compared to 1996.

The 5.9% increase in interest expense from 1995 to 1996 is due to an increase in the average borrowings of approximately \$5,000,000 for the twelve months ended December 31, 1996. A portion of the increase in interest expense during 1996 and 1995 was offset by interest income from restricted investments of \$559,000 in 1996 and \$243,000 in 1995. No interest was capitalized during 1997, 1996 or 1995.

OTHER INCOME. During the first quarter of 1997, the Company recognized a pre-tax gain, net of related legal fees, of \$800,000 resulting from the settlement of a lawsuit.

INCOME TAXES. In 1997, income tax expense of \$4,845,000 was recorded on a pre-tax loss of \$8,883,000 for an effective tax rate of (54.5%), as compared to tax benefits that were recorded on the pre-tax losses of 28.6% and 31.7% for the years ended 1996 and 1995, respectively. SFAS 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes," requires that a valuation allowance be established when, based on an evaluation of objective verifiable evidence, there is a likelihood that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company continually reviews the adequacy of its valuation allowance for deferred tax assets, and, in 1997, based on this review, the valuation allowance was increased by \$6,050,000, which resulted in a non-cash charge to operations of the same amount. This increase in the valuation allowance was the primary reason for the change in the effective tax rate between 1997 and 1996.

The actual realization of the net operating loss carryforwards and other tax assets depend on having future taxable income of the appropriate character prior to their expiration under the tax laws. If the Company continues to report losses in the future, no income tax benefit for these losses would be recorded. If the Company reports earnings from operations in the future, and depending on the level of these earnings, some portion or all of the valuation reserve would be reversed, which would increase net income reported in future periods.

23

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

The fluctuation in the effective tax rate from 1995 to 1996 was due to the amount of income before taxes, as compared to the fixed amount of goodwill and other non-deductible items.

During the ordinary course of its business, the Company is audited by federal and state tax authorities which may result in proposed assessments. The Company has received a notice of intent to assess state income taxes from one of the states in which it operates. The case is currently undergoing administrative appeal. If the Company loses the administrative appeal, the Company may be required to make a payment of approximately \$3,000,000 to the state. The Company believes that it has properly reported its state income and intends to contest the assessment vigorously. While the Company believes that the final outcome of the dispute will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations, no assurance can be given as to the final outcome of the dispute, the amount of any final adjustments or the potential impact of such adjustments on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT FUTURE RESULTS

From time to time, the Company and employees acting on behalf of the Company make forward-looking statements concerning the expected revenues, results of operations, capital expenditures, capital structure, plans and objectives of

management for future operations, and future economic performance. This report contains forward-looking statements. There are many factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in a forward-looking statement, and there can be no assurance that such expectations will be realized.

The Company's future operating results may be affected by a number of factors, including the Company's ability to: integrate successfully the CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- program; continue to implement the treatment and disposal reengineering program; utilize its facilities and workforce profitably, in the face of intense price competition; maintain or increase market share in an industry which appears to be downsizing and consolidating; realize benefits from cost reduction programs; and generate incremental volumes of waste to be handled through its facilities from existing sales offices and service centers.

The future operating results of the Kimball incinerator may be affected by factors such as its ability to: obtain sufficient volumes of waste at prices which produce revenue sufficient to offset the operating costs of the facility; minimize downtime and disruptions of operations; and compete successfully against other incinerators which have an established share of the incineration market.

The Company's operations may be affected by the commencement and completion of major site remediation projects; cleanup of major spills or other events; seasonal fluctuations due to weather and budgetary cycles influencing the timing of customers' spending for remedial activities; the timing of regulatory decisions relating to hazardous waste management projects; changes in regulations governing the management of hazardous waste; secular changes in the waste processing industry towards waste minimization and the propensity for delays in the remedial market; suspension of governmental permits; and fines and penalties for noncompliance with the myriad of regulations governing the Company's diverse operations. As a result of these factors, the Company's revenue and income could vary significantly from quarter to quarter, and past financial performance should not be considered a reliable indicator of future performance.

Typically during the first quarter of each calendar year there is less demand for environmental remediation due to the cold weather, particularly in the Northeast and Midwest regions, and increased possibility of unplanned weather related plant shutdowns. In addition, customer factory closings for the year-end holidays reduce the volume of industrial waste generated, which results in lower volumes of waste handled by the Company during the first quarter of the following year.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

The Company participates in a highly volatile industry, with multiple competitors, the major ones of which have taken large write-offs and asset write-downs and undergone major restructurings during the past several years. Periodically, the Company reviews long-lived assets for financial impairment. At the end of 1997, the Company determined based on this review that no asset write-downs were required; however, if conditions in the industry deteriorate further, certain assets could be determined to be impaired and an asset write-off could be required. Also, industry conditions may result in significant volatility of the Company's common stock price, as well as that of its competitors.

In the third quarter of 1997 the Company joined an ongoing lawsuit against the City of Chicago challenging the imposition of a waste charge by the City of Chicago on every gallon of waste received at the Company's Chicago facility. The City charge being challenged is imposed on only two facilities in the City of Chicago, the Company's facility and a facility operated by Liquid Recovery Systems, Inc. (LRS), which is a co-plaintiff in the suit. Since 1990 the Company has paid approximately \$3,000,000 to the City pursuant to this charge and continues to pay an average of approximately \$42,000 per month.

The lawsuit challenges the legal authority of the City of Chicago to impose the charge. The Company contends the charge is, among other things, an unlawful tax on service occupations in violation of the Illinois Constitution. The Company is seeking: (1) a declaration by the Circuit Court of Cook County that the challenged charge is unconstitutional or otherwise unlawful; (2) an injunction against the City's continued assessment and collection of the charge and; (3) a refund of all charges paid plus interest.

The City of Chicago is vigorously defending its purported authority to collect the charge and asserting that the Company is not entitled to a refund. The Company expects the Court to rule in 1998 on several pending motions filed by the Company, including a motion for partial summary judgment that is dispositive of the substantive merits of the Company's claims. The Company cannot predict when or whether the Court will decide in the Company's favor. Accordingly, no account receivable has been recorded on the books of the Company relating to this lawsuit.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTINGENCIES

While increasing environmental regulation often presents new business opportunities to the Company, it likewise often results in increased operating and compliance costs. The Company strives to conduct its operations in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including environmental rules and regulations, and has as its goal 100% compliance. This effort requires programs to promote compliance, such as training employees and customers, purchasing health and safety equipment, and in some cases hiring outside consultants and lawyers. Even with these programs, management believes that in the ordinary course of doing business, companies in the environmental services and waste disposal industry are faced with governmental enforcement proceedings resulting in fines or other sanctions and will likely be required to pay civil penalties or to expend funds for remedial work on waste management facilities.

From time to time, the Company has paid fines or penalties in governmental environmental enforcement proceedings, usually involving its waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities. At December 31, 1997, however, there were no pending governmental environmental enforcement proceedings where the Company believes potential monetary sanctions will exceed \$100,000. The possibility always exists that substantial expenditures could result from governmental proceedings, which would have a negative impact on earnings for a particular reporting period. More importantly, federal, state and local regulators have the power to suspend or revoke permits or licenses needed for operation of the Company's plants, equipment, and vehicles, based on the Company's compliance record, and customers may decide not to use a particular disposal facility or do business with a company because of concerns about the compliance record. Suspension or revocation of permits or licenses would impact the Company's operations and could have a material adverse impact on financial results.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

Certain Company subsidiaries have transported or generated waste sent to sites, which have been designated state or federal Superfund sites. As a result, the Company has been named as a potentially responsible party at 22 state and federal Superfund sites. Eleven of these sites involve two subsidiaries which the Company acquired from Chemical Waste Management, Inc. ("ChemWaste"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of WMX Technologies, Inc., and one site involves a subsidiary, which the Company acquired from Southdown, Inc., a public company. As part of these acquisitions, ChemWaste and Southdown, Inc. agreed to indemnify the Company with respect to any liability of such subsidiaries for waste disposed of before the Company acquired them. With respect to the other Superfund sites, the Company has established reserves or escrows, which it believes are appropriate, such that any future settlement costs of lawsuits arising from any or all of the 22 Superfund sites are not expected to be material to the Company's operations or financial position. The Company had accrued environmental costs of approximately \$572,000 and \$434,000 for cleanup of Superfund sites, at December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively.

The Company operates facilities that are subject to RCRA regulation. Under RCRA, every facility that treats, stores or disposes of hazardous waste must obtain a RCRA permit from EPA or an authorized state agency and must comply with certain operating requirements. Of the Company's 12 waste management facilities, nine are subject to RCRA licensing. RCRA requires that permits contain a schedule of required on-site study and cleanup activities, known as "corrective action," including detailed compliance schedules and provisions for assurance of financial responsibility.

The EPA or applicable state agency have begun RCRA corrective action investigations at the Company's RCRA licensed facilities in Baltimore, Maryland; Chicago, Illinois; Braintree, Massachusetts; Natick, Massachusetts; Woburn, Massachusetts; and Cincinnati, Ohio. RCRA corrective action at the Bristol, Connecticut, facility was completed in 1996. The Company is also involved in site studies at its non-RCRA facilities in Cleveland, Ohio; Kingston, Massachusetts; and South Portland, Maine.

In January 1995, the Company entered into a definitive agreement with ChemWaste to lease a site previously leased by ChemWaste which adjoins the Company's Chicago facility. During November 1995, the Company acquired the existing improvements on the ChemWaste site in exchange for agreeing to share the costs of dismantling an existing hazardous waste incinerator and cleaning up the site. The improvements on the ChemWaste site allowed the Company to implement the CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- program. Under the sharing arrangement with ChemWaste, the Company will manage the RCRA corrective action investigation at the site and over a period of 15 years could be required to contribute up to a maximum of \$2,000,000 for dismantling and decontaminating the incinerator and other equipment and up to a maximum of \$7,000,000 for studies and cleanup of the site. Any additional costs beyond those contemplated by the sharing arrangement during this time period would be borne by ChemWaste. The Company had accrued \$1,352,000 relating to this liability at December 31, 1997 and 1996. In addition, the Company believes that it would be able to appropriately capitalize the remediation expenditures that it may be obligated to make under the agreement. No estimate can be made as to when the remediation activities will be complete.

Two RCRA facilities in Bristol, Connecticut and Cincinnati, Ohio were acquired from a subsidiary of Southdown, Inc. Southdown has agreed to indemnify the Company against any costs incurred or liability arising from contamination on-site arising from prior ownership, including corrective action.

The following table summarizes non-reimbursed environmental remediation expenditures capitalized and expenses incurred relating to the Company's facilities for the years ended December 31, (in thousands):

	1997	1996	1995
	-----	-----	-----
Environmental expenditures capitalized.....	\$ 564	\$ 420	\$ 559
Environmental expenses incurred.....	256	176	231
	-----	-----	-----
	\$ 820	\$ 596	\$ 790
	-----	-----	-----

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

The Company expects environmental remediation expenditures of the magnitude incurred for the last three years to continue for the foreseeable future.

The Company is also involved in a RCRA corrective action investigation at a site in Chester, Pennsylvania owned by PECO Energy Company ("PECO"). The site consists of approximately 30 acres which PECO had leased to various companies over the years. In 1989, the Company acquired by merger a public company named ChemClear Inc., which operated a hazardous waste treatment facility on

approximately eight acres of the Chester site leased from PECO. The Company ceased operations at the Chester site, decontaminated the plant and equipment, engaged an independent engineer to certify closure, and obtained final closure of the facility. In 1993, the EPA ordered PECO to perform a RCRA corrective action investigation at the Chester site. PECO asked the Company to participate in the site studies, and in October 1994, the Company agreed to be responsible for seventy-five percent of the cost of these studies, which is estimated to be in the range of \$2,000,000, by, among other things, performing field service work and analytical services required to complete the site studies and providing other environmental services to PECO at discounted rates. The Company had provided discounts and credits to PECO in the amount of \$709,000 and \$413,000 through December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively. The Company had \$791,000 and \$1,087,000 accrued relating to this liability at December 31, 1997 and 1996. Remediation at this site is expected to be complete in one year.

While the final scope of work to be performed at these sites has not yet been agreed upon, the Company believes, based upon information known to date about the nature and extent of contamination at these sites, that accruals have been established when required and such costs are not expected to have a material effect on its results of operations or its competitive position, and that it will be able to finance from operating revenue any additional corrective action required at the sites.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Federal and state regulations require liability insurance coverage for all facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste, and financial assurance that funds will be available for closure of these facilities, should a facility cease operation, and post closure coverage where required by law. In 1989, the Company established a wholly-owned captive insurance company pursuant to the Federal Risk Retention Act of 1986. This company qualifies as a licensed insurance company and is authorized to write closure, professional liability, and pollution liability insurance for the Company and its operating subsidiaries. Investments are held by the captive insurance company as assets against its insured liabilities and are restricted for future payment of insurance claims. In 1997, the Company replaced a portion of the closure insurance issued by its captive insurance company with bonds issued by a bonding company. This allowed the captive insurance company to remit funds previously classified as restricted cash to the Company. In addition, at December 31, 1996, the Company had on deposit collateral of \$5,650,000 with a commercial insurance company to provide for closure and post-closure costs of its incinerator and landfill. During 1996, the Company renegotiated its agreement with the insurance company to replace collateral with a letter of credit. The cash from this transaction was released to the Company in 1997. As a result of these two transactions, the Company obtained \$7,262,000. The Company used these funds, as well as \$3,343,000 of additional borrowings under its revolving line of credit, to purchase equipment and improve properties in the amount of \$3,366,000, to pay maturities on long-term debt of \$5,009,000, and to cover the cash used in operations of \$1,480,000. The deficit from operations was largely the result of a decrease in accounts payable of \$6,309,000 offset by an a decrease in accounts receivable of \$4,226,000. Accounts payable decreased due to the Company paying vendors in a more timely basis in 1997 as compared to 1996, which allowed for smoother operations. Accounts receivable decreased in proportion to the decrease in selling

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

prices. In addition, in 1997 the Company obtained \$1,888,000 from the sale of property, plant and equipment.

In 1996, the Company generated \$5,281,000 from operations which was used primarily to purchase equipment and improve properties in the amount of \$3,126,000 and to increase collateral relating to bonds issued to guarantee closure of facilities in the amount of \$1,278,000. In addition, the Company obtained \$965,000 from the sale of property, plant and equipment.

The Company expects 1998 capital additions to be in the range of \$3,000,000. The Company believes that it has all of the plants and facilities required by the business for the foreseeable future. Thus, the Company anticipates that capital expenditures in 1998 will be limited to maintaining existing capital assets.

The Company has reviewed its systems for compliance with the year 2000, and the Company determined that all major systems are or will be compliant before the end of 1998. The Company believes that no material costs will be incurred to modify software for year 2000 compliance.

In September of 1996, the Company refinanced its \$45,000,000 revolving credit and term loan agreement (the "Loan Agreement") with a financial institution by (i) amending the Loan Agreement to reduce the maximum credit thereunder from \$45,000,000 to \$35,000,000 and (ii) guaranteeing \$10,000,000 of 10.75% Economic Development Revenue Bonds due September 1, 2026 issued by the City of Kimball, Nebraska (the "Bonds"). The Company used the net proceeds from the sale of the Bonds to repay a portion of its outstanding debt under the Loan Agreement. That portion was originally incurred to pay for a portion of the costs of the Kimball incinerator and landfill, including the prepaid closure insurance programs, as well as the costs of improvements to the facility.

The Loan Agreement provides for a \$24,500,000 revolving credit facility (the "Revolver") and a \$10,500,000 term promissory note (the "Term Note"). The Term Note is payable in monthly installments of \$250,000 with the last payment due in January 2000. The Revolver allows increased borrowing availability to a maximum of \$35,000,000 in cash and letters of credit as the Term Loan is amortized. Letters of credit may not exceed \$20,000,000 at any one time. In June 1997, the term of the Revolver was extended from May 8, 1998 to May 8, 1999 under substantially the same terms and conditions.

The Loan Agreement provides for certain covenants the most restrictive of which required, at December 31, 1997, the maintenance of a minimum level of working capital of \$10,000,000 and adjusted net worth of not less than \$40,000,000. At December 31, 1997, working capital was \$11,759,000 and adjusted net worth was \$42,024,000. In 1998, the loan covenants were changed to require working capital of not less than \$6,000,000 and adjusted net worth of not less than \$33,000,000. In addition, the Bonds contain certain covenants the most restrictive of which require that the Company maintain a ratio of earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) to total debt service of 1.25 to 1. At December 31, 1997, the debt service coverage ratio was 1.04 to 1. Under the terms of the Bonds, the deficiency in the debt coverage ratio will not result in a default, but the Company will be required to pay in six equal monthly installments into a debt service reserve fund held by the Trustee for the Bonds a total amount equal to one year's interest on the Bonds.

At December 31, 1997 and 1996, funds available to borrow under the Revolver were \$9,900,000 and \$13,000,000, respectively. Management believes that sufficient resources will be available to meet the Company's cash requirements through at least December 31, 1998. The Company has \$50,000,000 of Senior Notes which mature in 2001. Some portion or all of the borrowings under the Senior Notes will need to be refinanced by the maturity date. The ability of the Company to refinance the Senior Notes at reasonable interest rates is dependent upon improving results from operations and is contingent on a favorable interest rate environment when the Company attempts to refinance the borrowings.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

Dividends on the Company's Series B Convertible Preferred Stock are payable on the 15th day of January, April, July and October, at the rate of \$1.00 per share, per quarter; 112,000 shares are outstanding. Under the terms of the preferred stock, the Company can elect to pay dividends in cash or in common stock with a market value equal to the amount of the dividend payable. Since March 1995, the Company has elected to pay the dividends in common stock. The Company issued a total of 250,523 shares of common stock to the holders of the preferred stock for the year 1997. The Company anticipates that the preferred

stock dividends payable through 1998 will be paid in common stock.

RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In February 1997, The Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 128, "Earnings per Share," which is effective for both interim and fiscal periods ending after December 31, 1997. The statement requires restatement of all prior period earnings per share data presented after the effective date. SFAS 128 specifies the computation, presentation and disclosure requirements for earnings per share and is substantially similar to the standards recently issued by the International Accounting Standards Committee entitled "International Accounting Standards, Earnings Per Share." The Company adopted SFAS 128 for the period ending December 31, 1997. The adoption of SFAS 128 resulted in no changes to previously reported earnings for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996, 1995 and 1994, and only a minor impact on the reported earnings per share amounts for the year ended 1993.

In June 1997, the FASB issued SFAS No. 130, "Reporting Comprehensive Income." This statement requires that changes in comprehensive income be shown in a financial statement that is displayed with the same prominence as other financial statements. The statement will be effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 1997, and the Company will adopt its provisions in fiscal 1998. Reclassification for earlier periods is required for comparative purposes. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this statement will have on its financial statements; however, because the statement requires only additional disclosure, the Company does not expect the statement to have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In June 1997, the FASB issued SFAS No. 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information." This statement supersedes SFAS No. 14, "Financial Reporting for Segments of a Business Enterprise." This statement includes requirements to report selected segment information quarterly and entity-wide disclosures about products and services, major customers and the material countries in which the entity holds assets and reports revenues. The statement will be effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 1997, and the Company will adopt its provisions in fiscal 1998. Reclassification for earlier periods is required, unless impracticable, for comparative purposes. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this statement will have on its financial statements; however, because the statement requires only additional disclosure, the Company does not expect the statement to have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In 1996, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants issued Statement of Position 96-1, "Environmental Remediation Liabilities," ("SOP 96-1") for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 1996. SOP 96-1 provides that environmental remediation liabilities should be accrued when the criteria of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies," are met and it includes benchmarks to aid in the determination of when environmental remediation liabilities should be recognized in the financial statements. The Company's management determined that the adoption of SOP 96-1 had no material impact on the results of operations.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Clean Harbors, Inc.:

We have audited the consolidated financial statements and the financial statement schedule of Clean Harbors, Inc. and its subsidiaries listed in Item 14(a) of this Form 10-K. These financial statements and the financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and the financial statement schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Clean Harbors, Inc. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 1997 and 1996, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 1997, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule referred to above, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information required to be included therein.

Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P.

Boston, Massachusetts
February 4, 1998

30

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(IN THOUSANDS EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

	FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	1997	1996	1995
Revenues.....	\$ 183,767	\$ 200,213	\$ 209,250
Cost of revenues.....	140,542	154,608	156,779
Selling, general and administrative expenses.....	34,498	36,326	39,574
Depreciation and amortization of intangible assets.....	9,228	9,827	10,081
Nonrecurring charges.....	--	--	4,247
Loss from operations.....	(501)	(548)	(1,431)
Other income, net.....	800	--	--
Interest expense, net.....	9,182	9,170	8,657
Loss before provision for income taxes.....	(8,883)	(9,718)	(10,088)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	4,845	(2,775)	(3,195)
Net loss.....	\$ (13,728)	\$ (6,943)	\$ (6,893)
Basic and diluted loss per share.....	\$ (1.42)	\$ (.77)	\$ (.77)
Weighted average common shares outstanding.....	9,959	9,653	9,475

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

31

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
ASSETS
(IN THOUSANDS)

	AS OF DECEMBER 31,	
	1997	1996
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 3,935	\$ 1,366
Restricted investments.....	1,088	8,190
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,050 and \$1,063, respectively.....	37,836	42,746
Prepaid expenses.....	1,518	1,603
Supplies inventories.....	2,811	2,866
Income tax receivable.....	1,669	1,668
Deferred tax asset.....	1,581	3,152
Total current assets.....	50,438	61,591
Property, plant and equipment:		
Land.....	8,182	8,423
Buildings and improvements.....	37,890	39,585
Vehicles and equipment.....	77,281	78,050
Furniture and fixtures.....	2,190	2,191
Construction in progress.....	2,756	1,819
	128,299	130,068
Less--accumulated depreciation and amortization.....	66,392	61,282
	61,907	68,786
Other assets:		
Goodwill, net.....	20,755	21,479
Permits, net.....	11,695	12,605
Deferred taxes non-current.....	5,627	9,208
Other.....	4,523	4,328
	42,600	47,620
Total assets.....	\$ 154,945	\$ 177,997

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

32

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
(IN THOUSANDS)

	AS OF DECEMBER 31,	
	1997	1996
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term obligations.....	\$ 4,037	\$ 4,370
Accounts payable.....	13,760	20,069
Accrued disposal costs.....	7,100	7,912
Other accrued expenses.....	13,548	14,609
Income taxes payable.....	10	162
Deferred tax liability.....	224	224
Total current liabilities.....	38,679	47,346
Other liabilities:		
Long-term obligations, less current maturities.....	68,020	68,668
Deferred taxes, long-term.....	6,871	7,453
Other.....	1,351	946
Total other liabilities.....	76,242	77,067
Commitments and contingent liabilities (Notes 4, 7, 9, and 10)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value:		
Series A convertible preferred stock		
Authorized--2,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding--none.....	--	--
Series B convertible preferred stock		
Authorized--156,416 shares; issued and outstanding--112,000 shares (liquidation preference of \$5,600,000).....	1	1
Common stock, \$.01 par value:		
Authorized--20,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 10,101,490 and 9,743,153 shares, respectively.....	101	98
Additional paid-in capital.....	60,087	59,477
Unrealized loss on restricted investments, net of tax.....	(12)	(15)
Accumulated deficit.....	(20,153)	(5,977)
Total stockholders' equity.....	40,024	53,584

Total liabilities and stockholders' equity.....	\$ 154,945	\$ 177,997
	-----	-----
	-----	-----

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

33

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(IN THOUSANDS)

	FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	1997	1996	1995
	-----	-----	-----
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net loss.....	\$ (13,728)	\$ (6,943)	\$ (6,893)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization.....	9,228	9,827	10,081
Write-off for reengineering program.....	--	--	3,684
Allowance for doubtful accounts.....	683	651	381
Amortization of deferred financing costs.....	747	631	536
Deferred income taxes.....	4,570	(2,273)	(3,286)
Loss (gain) on sale of fixed assets.....	67	(77)	9
(Gain) loss on sale of investments.....	--	(28)	4
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of businesses acquired:			
Accounts receivable.....	4,226	5,020	(3,962)
Income taxes receivable.....	(1)	(946)	(544)
Prepaid expenses.....	85	436	(268)
Supplies inventories.....	55	104	(300)
Other assets.....	(195)	(873)	(2,661)
Accounts payable.....	(6,309)	1,455	7,063
Accrued disposal costs.....	(812)	466	1,267
Other accrued expenses.....	(349)	(3,277)	2,206
Income taxes payable.....	(152)	162	--
Other liabilities.....	405	946	--
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities.....	(1,480)	5,281	7,317
	-----	-----	-----
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Additions to property, plant and equipment.....	(3,366)	(3,126)	(12,984)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of restricted investments.....	7,262	740	202
Cost of restricted investments purchased.....	(172)	(1,278)	(6,124)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets.....	1,888	965	36
Increase in permits.....	--	(13)	(140)
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities.....	5,612	(2,712)	(19,010)
	-----	-----	-----
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Payments on long-term obligations.....	(5,009)	(7,355)	(2,922)
Net borrowings (payments) under long-term revolver.....	3,343	(10,337)	4,848
Issuance of long-term debt.....	--	16,667	10,000
Additions to deferred financing costs.....	(62)	(564)	(842)
Preferred stock dividend distribution.....	--	--	(335)
Proceeds from employee stock purchase plan.....	146	161	152
Proceeds from exercise of stock options.....	19	--	17
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities.....	(1,563)	(1,428)	10,918
	-----	-----	-----
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents.....	2,569	1,141	(775)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year.....	1,366	225	1,000
	-----	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year.....	\$ 3,935	\$ 1,366	\$ 225
	-----	-----	-----

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

34

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)
(IN THOUSANDS)

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER

	31,		
	1997	1996	1995
Supplemental information:			
Cash payments (receipts) for interest and income taxes:			
Interest, net.....	\$ 8,519	\$ 8,849	\$ 8,715
Income taxes, net.....	421	(430)	1,410
Liabilities assumed in conjunction with business acquisitions:			
Fair value of assets acquired.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 5,160
Cash paid.....	--	--	4,132
Liabilities assumed.....	--	--	1,028
Noncash investing and financing activities:			
Capital lease obligations incurred.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 196
Stock dividend on preferred stock.....	448	447	112
Property, plant & equipment accrued.....	--	--	865

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

35

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1997

(IN THOUSANDS)

	SERIES B PREFERRED STOCK		COMMON STOCK		ADDITIONAL PAID-IN CAPITAL	UNREALIZED GAIN/ (LOSS) ON RESTRICTED INVESTMENTS	RETAINED EARNINGS/ (ACCUMULATED) DEFICIT)	TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
	NUMBER OF SHARES	\$.01 PAR VALUE	NUMBER OF SHARES	\$.01 PAR VALUE				
Balance, at December 31, 1994.....	112	\$1	9,431	\$ 95	\$58,590	\$ (113)	\$ 8,753	\$67,326
Preferred stock dividends:								
Series B, \$4.00 per share.....	--	--	29	--	112	--	(447)	(335)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options.....								
Employee Stock Purchase Plan.....	--	--	6	--	17	--	--	17
Unrealized gain on restricted investments.....	--	--	--	--	--	106	--	106
Net loss.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	(6,893)	(6,893)
Balance, at December 31, 1995.....	112	\$1	9,525	\$ 96	\$58,871	\$ (7)	\$ 1,413	\$60,374
Preferred stock dividends:								
Series B, \$4.00 per share.....	--	--	153	1	446	--	(447)	--
Employee Stock Purchase Plan.....								
Unrealized loss on restricted investments.....	--	--	65	1	160	--	--	161
Net loss.....	--	--	--	--	--	(8)	--	(8)
Net loss.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	(6,943)	(6,943)
Balance, at December 31, 1996.....	112	\$1	9,743	\$ 98	\$59,477	\$ (15)	\$ (5,977)	\$53,584
Preferred stock dividends:								
Series B, \$4.00 per share.....	--	--	250	2	446	--	(448)	--
Proceeds from exercise of stock options.....								
Employee Stock Purchase Plan.....	--	--	9	--	19	--	--	19
Unrealized gain on restricted investments.....	--	--	99	1	145	--	--	146
Net loss.....	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	3
Net loss.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	(13,728)	(13,728)
Balance, at December 31, 1997.....	112	\$1	10,101	\$ 101	\$60,087	\$ (12)	\$ (20,153)	\$40,024

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

36

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) OPERATIONS

Clean Harbors, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company") are engaged in the business of industrial waste management services

involving treatment and disposal of industrial wastes; field services provided at customer sites; and specialized handling of laboratory chemicals and household hazardous wastes. The Company provides these services to a diversified customer base across the United States, primarily in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Central, Midwest and Southern Regions.

(2) SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of the Company reflect the application of certain significant accounting policies as described below:

(a) Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying consolidated statements include the accounts of Clean Harbors, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All material intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

(b) Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenues and accrues the related cost of treatment and disposal upon the receipt of waste materials, except for incineration where revenue is recognized as waste is burned. Other revenues are recognized as the related costs are incurred.

(c) Income Taxes

Under the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes" ("SFAS 109"), deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based upon the difference between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities as measured by the enacted tax rates which will be in effect when these differences reverse. Deferred tax expense or benefit is the result of changes between deferred tax assets and liabilities.

A valuation allowance is established when, based on an evaluation of objective verifiable evidence, there is a likelihood that some portion or all of deferred tax assets will not be realized.

(d) Earnings per Share

In 1997, the Company implemented Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 128, "Earnings per Share" ("SFAS 128"). Under SFAS 128, basic EPS is calculated by dividing income available to common shareholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS gives effect to all potential dilutive common shares that were outstanding during the period. The earnings per share for the Company under SFAS 128 were the same as under the prior accounting standard for the years presented in the financial statements.

(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with original maturities of less than three months to be cash equivalents.

(2) SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(f) Investments

Debt securities are classified as "available for sale" or "held to maturity." Available for sale securities are recorded at fair value with an offsetting valuation adjustment, net of tax, in stockholders' equity. Held to maturity securities are recorded at purchase cost.

(g) Supplies Inventory

Supplies inventory, stated at the lower of cost or market, is charged to operations on a first-in, first-out basis.

(h) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. The Company depreciates and amortizes the cost of these assets, less the estimated salvage value, using the straight-line method as follows:

ASSET CLASSIFICATION	ESTIMATED USEFUL LIFE
Buildings and improvements.....	5-30 years
Vehicles and equipment.....	3-15 years
Furniture and fixtures.....	5-8 years

Leaseholds are amortized over the shorter of the life of the lease or the asset. Depreciation expense includes depreciation of property plant and equipment, and equipment capitalized under capital leases. Depreciation expense was \$7,594,000 for 1997, \$8,207,000 for 1996 and \$8,462,000 for 1995. Upon retirement or other disposition, the cost and related accumulated depreciation of the assets are removed from the accounts and the resulting gain or loss is reflected in income.

(i) Goodwill and Permits

Goodwill and permits, as further discussed in Notes 5 and 6, are stated at cost and are being amortized using the straight-line method over 20 years for permits and periods ranging from 20 to 40 years for goodwill.

(j) Deferred Financing Costs

Deferred financing costs are amortized over the life of the related debt instrument, and they are carried as a component of long-term debt.

(k) Costs to Treat Environmental Contamination

Costs relating to environmental cleanup resulting from operating activities are expensed as incurred. Environmental cleanup costs that improve properties, as compared with the condition of that property when originally acquired, are capitalized to the extent that they are recoverable.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(2) SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(l) Letters of Credit

The Company utilizes letters of credit to provide collateral assurance to issuers of performance bonds for certain contracts; to assure regulatory authorities that certain funds will be available for corrective action activities at its hazardous waste management facilities, as described in Note 7(b) below; and to provide financial assurance to regulators of its captive insurance company. As of December 31, 1997 and 1996, the Company had outstanding letters of credit amounting to \$6,267,000 and \$6,870,000, respectively.

As of December 31, 1997, the Company had no significant concentrations of credit risk.

(m) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and

assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(n) Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made in the prior years' consolidated financial statements to conform to the 1997 presentation.

(3) FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents approximate fair value. The fair value of restricted investments, revenue bonds and senior notes is based on quoted market prices for these securities. At December 31, 1997, the estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments are as follows (in thousands):

	CARRYING AMOUNT	FAIR VALUE	NET UNREALIZED GAIN/(LOSS)
	-----	-----	-----
December 31, 1997			
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 3,395	\$ 3,395	\$ --
Restricted investments available for sale.....	801	782	(19)
Restricted investments held to maturity.....	306	284	(22)
Long-term obligations based on quoted market prices.....	60,000	60,803	--
Other long-term obligations.....	13,707	13,707	--
December 31, 1996			
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 1,366	\$ 1,366	\$ --
Restricted investments available for sale.....	7,885	7,978	93
Restricted investments held to maturity.....	305	305	--
Long-term obligations based on quoted market prices.....	60,000	51,750	--
Other long-term obligations.....	15,373	15,373	--

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(3) FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

Available for sale securities are mortgage backed securities. Held to maturity consist primarily of collateralized mortgage obligations. Contractual maturities as of December 31, 1997 range from one to ten years, with the majority being five years or less. Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities, as borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations without penalties.

(4) RESTRICTED INVESTMENTS

Federal and state regulations require liability insurance coverage for all facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste, and financial assurance that certain funds will be available for closure of those facilities, should a facility cease operation, and post closure coverage where required by law. In 1989, the Company established a wholly-owned captive insurance company pursuant to the Federal Risk Retention Act of 1986. This company qualifies as a licensed insurance company and is authorized to write closure, professional liability, and pollution liability insurance for the Company and its operating subsidiaries. Investments are held by the captive insurance company as assets against its insured liabilities and are restricted for future payment of insurance claims. At December 31, 1997, the Company insured several facilities for closure and post closure through its captive insurance company. In 1997, the Company replaced a portion of the closure insurance issued by its captive insurance company with bonds issued by a bonding company. This allowed the captive insurance company to remit funds previously classified as restricted investments to the Company. At December 31, 1997, the amortized cost of these securities was \$1,107,000. A valuation allowance of \$19,000 was recorded to reflect the fair value of available for sale securities of \$782,000 and a

realized gain of \$3,000 was reflected in net income for the year. No valuation allowance was required to reflect the fair value of held to maturity securities of \$284,000. The amortized cost of these securities held at December 31, 1996 was \$1,934,000. A valuation allowance of \$35,000 was recorded to reflect the fair value of \$1,899,000, and a realized gain of \$28,000 was reflected in net income for the year.

At December 31, 1996, the Company had on deposit collateral of \$5,650,000 with a commercial insurance company to provide for closure and post-closure costs of its incinerator and landfill. During 1996 the Company renegotiated its agreement with the insurance company to replace the collateral with a letter of credit, and the Company transferred all its held-to-maturity government debt securities to the available-for-sale category. The cash from this collateral was released in 1997 to the Company. At December 31, 1996 the amortized cost of these securities was \$6,261,000, while the fair value was \$6,354,000. The Company had an additional \$30,000 in escrow deposited for closure costs at December 31, 1996. The fair value approximated the amortized costs of these investments, therefore no valuation allowance has been recorded.

(5) BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS

In May 1995, the Company acquired a newly constructed hazardous waste incinerator in Kimball, Nebraska from the Ecova Corporation, a wholly-owned affiliate of Amoco Oil Company. The incinerator is located on a 600 acre site, which includes a landfill for disposal of the ash from the incinerator. The Company acquired the Kimball facility for \$5,160,000.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(6) INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Below is a summary of intangible assets at December 31, 1997 and 1996 (in thousands):

	1997	1996
	-----	-----
Goodwill.....	\$ 27,529	\$ 27,529
Permits.....	17,689	17,689
	-----	-----
	45,218	45,218
Less--accumulated amortization.....	12,768	11,134
	-----	-----
	\$ 32,450	\$ 34,084
	-----	-----

Amortization expense approximated \$1,634,000, \$1,620,000, and \$1,619,000, for the years 1997, 1996, and 1995, respectively.

(7) LEGAL MATTERS AND OTHER CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS

(a) Legal Matters

In the ordinary course of conducting its business, the Company becomes involved in environmentally related lawsuits and administrative proceedings. Some of these proceedings may result in fines, penalties or judgments against the Company.

As of December 31, 1997, the Company has been named as a potentially responsible party ("PRP") in a number of lawsuits arising from the disposal of wastes by certain Company subsidiaries at 22 state and federal Superfund sites. Eleven of these cases involve two subsidiaries which the Company acquired from Chemical Waste Management, Inc. ("ChemWaste"), a subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc. As part of the acquisition, ChemWaste agreed to indemnify the Company with

respect to any liability of its Braintree and Natick subsidiaries for waste disposed of before the Company acquired them. Accordingly, ChemWaste is paying all costs of defending the Natick and Braintree subsidiaries in these 11 cases, including legal fees and settlement costs. Three cases involve Mr. Frank, Inc. and one case involves Connecticut Treatment Center ("CTC"). Southdown, Inc., from which the Company bought CTC, has agreed to indemnify the Company with respect to any liability for waste disposed of by CTC before the Company acquired CTC, and the sellers of Mr. Frank, Inc. agreed to a limited indemnity against certain environmental liabilities arising from prior operations of Mr. Frank, Inc. Five pending cases involve subsidiaries which the Company acquired in January 1989, when it purchased all of the outstanding shares of ChemClear Inc., a publicly traded company ("ChemClear"). The Company has also been identified recently as a PRP at two additional sites at which the Company believes it has no liability.

Management routinely reviews each Superfund site in which the Company's subsidiaries are involved, considers each subsidiary's role at each site and its relationship to the other PRPs at the site, the quantity and content of the waste it disposed of at the site, and the number and financial capabilities of the other PRPs at the site. Based on reviews of the various sites and currently available information, and management's judgment and prior experience with similar situations, expense accruals are provided by the Company for its share of future site cleanup costs, and existing accruals are revised as necessary. The Company had accrued environmental costs, based on the Company's estimate of its expected liability, of

41

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(7) LEGAL MATTERS AND OTHER CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

\$572,000 and \$434,000 for cleanup of Superfund sites at December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively. However, Superfund legislation permits strict joint and several liability to be imposed without regard to fault and, as a result, one PRP might be required to bear significantly more than its proportional share of the cleanup costs if other PRPs do not pay their share of such costs.

(b) Environmental Matters

Under the Federal Resources Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 ("RCRA"), every facility that treats, stores or disposes of hazardous waste must obtain a RCRA permit from EPA or an authorized state agency and must comply with certain operating requirements. Of the Company's 12 waste management facilities, nine are subject to RCRA licensing. RCRA requires that permits contain a schedule of required on-site study and cleanup activities, known as "corrective action," including detailed compliance schedules and provisions for assurance of financial responsibility.

The EPA or applicable state agency have begun RCRA corrective action investigations at the Company's RCRA licensed facilities in Baltimore, Maryland; Chicago, Illinois; Braintree, Massachusetts; Natick, Massachusetts; Woburn, Massachusetts; and Cincinnati, Ohio. RCRA corrective action at the Bristol, Connecticut, facility was completed in 1996. The Company is also involved in site studies at its non-RCRA facilities in Cleveland, Ohio; Kingston, Massachusetts; and South Portland, Maine.

In January 1995, the Company entered into a definitive agreement with ChemWaste to lease a site previously leased by ChemWaste which adjoins the Company's Chicago facility. During November 1995, the Company acquired the existing improvements on the ChemWaste site in exchange for agreeing to share the costs of dismantling an existing hazardous waste incinerator and cleaning up the site. The improvements on the ChemWaste site allowed the Company to implement the CleanEXPRESS-Registered Trademark- program. Under the sharing arrangement with ChemWaste, the Company will manage the RCRA corrective action investigation at the site and over a period of 15 years could be required to contribute up to a maximum of \$2,000,000 for dismantling and decontaminating the

incinerator and other equipment, and up to a maximum of \$7,000,000 for studies and cleanup of the site. Any additional costs beyond those contemplated by the sharing arrangement during this time period would be borne by ChemWaste. The Company had accrued \$1,352,000 relating to this liability at December 31, 1997 and 1996. In addition, the Company believes that it would be able to appropriately capitalize the remediation expenditures in excess of the amount accrued that it may be obligated to make under the agreement. No estimate can be made as to when the remediation activities will be completed.

Two RCRA facilities in Bristol, Connecticut and Cincinnati, Ohio were acquired from a subsidiary of Southdown, Inc. Southdown has agreed to indemnify the Company against any costs incurred or liability arising from contamination on-site arising from prior ownership, including the cost of corrective action.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(7) LEGAL MATTERS AND OTHER CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following table summarizes non-reimbursed environmental remediation expenditures capitalized and expenses incurred relating to the Company's facilities for the years ended December 31, (in thousands):

	1997	1996	1995
Environmental expenditures capitalized.....	\$ 564	\$ 420	\$ 559
Environmental expenses incurred.....	256	176	231
	\$ 820	\$ 596	\$ 790

The Company expects environmental remediation expenditures of the magnitude incurred for the last three years to continue for the foreseeable future. Environmental expenses incurred are included as a component of selling, general and administrative expenses.

The Company is also involved in a RCRA corrective action investigation at a site in Chester, Pennsylvania owned by PECO Energy Company ("PECO"). The site consists of approximately 30 acres which PECO had leased to various companies over the years. In 1989, the Company acquired by merger a public company named ChemClear Inc., which operated a hazardous waste treatment facility on approximately eight acres of the Chester site leased from PECO. The Company ceased operations at the Chester site, decontaminated the plant and equipment, engaged an independent engineer to certify closure, and obtained final approval from the Pennsylvania regulatory authorities, certifying final closure of the facility. In 1993, the EPA ordered PECO to perform a RCRA corrective action investigation at the Chester site. PECO asked the Company to participate in the site studies, and in October 1994, the Company agreed to be responsible for seventy-five percent of the cost of these studies, which is estimated to be in the range of \$2,000,000, by, among other things, performing field services work and analytical services required to complete the site studies and providing other environmental services to PECO at discounted rates. The Company had provided discounts to PECO of \$709,000 and \$413,000 through December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively. The Company had \$791,000 and \$1,087,000 accrued relating to this liability at December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively. Remediation at this site is expected to be complete in one year.

While the final scope of the work to be performed at these sites has not yet been agreed upon, the Company believes, based upon information known to date about the nature and extent of contamination at these sites, that accruals have been established when required and such costs will not have a material effect on its results of operations or its competitive position, and that it will be able to finance from operating revenues any additional corrective action required at its sites.

(c) Other Contingencies

The Company is subject to various regulatory requirements, including the procurement of requisite licenses and permits at its facilities. These licenses and permits are subject to periodic renewal without which the Company's operations would be adversely affected. The Company anticipates that, once a license or permit is issued with respect to a facility, the license or permit will be renewed at the end of its term if the facility's operations are in compliance with the applicable regulatory requirements.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(7) LEGAL MATTERS AND OTHER CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

Under the Company's insurance programs, coverage is obtained for catastrophic exposures, as well as those risks required to be insured by law or contract. It is the policy of the Company to retain a significant portion of certain expected losses related primarily to workers' compensation, physical loss to property, and comprehensive general and vehicle liability. Provisions for losses expected under these programs are recorded based upon the Company's estimates of the aggregate liability for claims.

(d) Gain Contingency

In the third quarter of 1997 the Company joined an ongoing lawsuit against the City of Chicago challenging the imposition of a waste charge by the City of Chicago on every gallon of waste received at the Company's Chicago facility. The City charge being challenged is imposed on only two facilities in the City of Chicago, the Company's facility and a facility operated by Liquid Recovery Systems, Inc. (LRS), which is a co-plaintiff in the suit. Since 1990 the Company has paid approximately \$3,000,000 to the City pursuant to this charge and continues to pay an average of approximately \$42,000 per month.

The lawsuit challenges the legal authority of the City of Chicago to impose the charge. The Company contends the charge is, among other things, an unlawful tax on service occupations in violation of the Illinois Constitution. The Company is seeking: (1) a declaration by the Circuit Court of Cook County that the challenged charge is unconstitutional or otherwise unlawful; (2) an injunction against the City's continued assessment and collection of the charge and; (3) a refund of all charges paid plus interest.

The City of Chicago is vigorously defending its purported authority to collect the charge and asserting that the Company is not entitled to a refund. The Company expects the Court to rule in 1998 on several pending motions filed by the Company, including a motion for partial summary judgment that is dispositive of the substantive merits of the Company's claims. The Company cannot predict when or whether the Court will decide in the Company's favor. Accordingly, no account receivable has been recorded on the books of the Company relating to this lawsuit.

(8) OTHER ACCRUED EXPENSES

Other accrued expenses consist of the following (in thousands):

	1997	1996
Insurance.....	\$ 3,323	\$ 3,125
Other items.....	10,225	11,484
	\$ 13,548	\$ 14,609

(9) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS

On September 6, 1996, the Company refinanced its \$45,000,000 revolving credit and term loan agreement (the "Loan Agreement") with a financial institution by (i) amending the Loan Agreement to reduce the maximum credit thereunder from \$45,000,000 to \$35,000,000, and (ii) guaranteeing \$10,000,000 of 10.75% Economic Development Revenue Bonds due September 1, 2026 issued by the City of Kimball, Nebraska (the "Bonds"). The Company used the net proceeds from the sale of the Bonds to repay a

44

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(9) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

portion of its outstanding debt under the Loan Agreement. That portion was originally incurred for acquisition costs associated with the acquisition of the Kimball incinerator (the "Facility"), including the costs relating to insurance premiums. In connection with the issuance of the Bonds, the Company entered into a facilities lease with the City of Kimball, whereby the City acquired a leasehold interest in the Facility and the Company leased the Facility back from the City. The Company retains title to the Facility.

The Bonds were issued at 100% of their principal value. The Bonds are not redeemable prior to September 1, 2006. From that date until September 1, 2008, the Bonds are redeemable at a premium. After September 1, 2008, the Bonds are redeemable at par. Sinking fund payments begin on September 1, 1999 in the amount of \$100,000 annually until the year 2008, when the annual sinking fund payment will gradually increase. The Bonds provide for certain covenants and requirements relating to, among others, incurrence of additional debt, payment of dividends and a debt service coverage ratio of earnings before interest, income taxes, and depreciation and amortization ("EBITDA") to total debt service. At December 31, 1997, the debt service coverage ratio of 1.04 to 1 was less than the 1.25 to 1 required. Under the terms of the Bonds, the deficiency in the debt coverage ratio will not result in a default, but the Company will be required to pay in six equal monthly installments into a debt service reserve fund held by the Trustee for the Bonds a total amount equal to the annual debt service for one year on the Bonds.

As amended, the Company has a \$35,000,000 Loan Agreement with a financial institution. The Loan Agreement provides for a \$24,500,000 revolving credit portion (the "Revolver") and a \$10,500,000 term promissory note (the "Term Note"). The Term Note has monthly principal payments of \$250,000 with the last payment due in January 2000. The Revolver allows the Company to borrow up to \$35,000,000 in cash and letters of credit, based on a formula of eligible accounts receivable. Letters of credit may not exceed \$20,000,000 at any one time. At December 31, 1997 and 1996, funds available to borrow under the Revolver were \$9,900,000 and \$13,000,000, respectively. The Revolver requires the Company to pay a line fee of one half of one percent on the unused portion of the line. In June, 1997, the term of the Revolver was extended from May 8, 1998 to May 8, 1999.

The Loan Agreement allows for up to 80% of the outstanding balance of the combined Revolver and Term Note to bear interest at the Eurodollar rate plus three percent; the remaining balance bears interest at a rate equal to the "prime" rate plus one and one-half percent. The Loan Agreement is collateralized by substantially all of the Company's assets, and the Loan Agreement provides for certain covenants including, among others, maintenance of a minimum level of working capital and adjusted net worth. At December 31, 1997, the Loan Agreement required minimum levels of working capital and adjusted net worth of \$10,000,000 and \$40,000,000, respectively. At December 31, 1997, the Company had working capital and adjusted net worth of \$11,759,000 and \$42,024,000, respectively. In 1998, the Loan Agreement was modified to require working capital of \$6,000,000 and adjusted net worth of \$33,000,000. The Company must also maintain borrowing availability of not less than \$4,500,000 for sixty consecutive days prior to paying principal and interest on its other indebtedness and dividends in cash on

its preferred stock.

The Company has outstanding \$50,000,000 of 12.50% Senior Notes due May 15, 2001 (the "Senior Notes"). The Senior Notes are not collateralized, and the Senior Note indenture does not provide for the maintenance of certain financial covenants, although it does limit, among other things, the issuance of

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(9) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

additional debt by the Company or its subsidiaries and the payment of dividends on, and redemption of, capital stock of the Company and its subsidiaries. Interest is paid twice each year on the Senior Notes.

In connection with the sale of the Senior Notes, the Company amended the terms of two 8% subordinated convertible notes, in the amounts of \$3,500,000 and \$1,500,000, respectively. The two notes were collateralized by liens on certain Company assets, and are convertible into common stock at \$15 and \$10 per share, respectively, through October 1999. The holder of these two notes agreed to exchange such notes for new 10% Senior Convertible Notes, with less restrictive covenants than the prior notes. The new notes rank PARI PASSU with the Senior Notes and have covenants identical to the Senior Note covenants. Principal of the two Senior Convertible Notes is payable in five equal installments of \$1,000,000, which began on October 31, 1995 and end on October 31, 1999. The Company has the option to convert such notes into common stock at \$25 per share if the market value of the common stock exceeds such price in the future.

The following table is a summary of the Company's long-term debt obligations reflecting the transactions discussed above.

	DECEMBER 31,	
	1997	1996
	(IN THOUSANDS)	
Long-term obligations consist of the following:		
Economic development revenue bonds at 10.75%.....	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Revolving credit with a finance company, bearing interest at the "prime" rate (8.50% at December 31, 1997) plus 1.50%, collateralized by substantially all assets.....	5,559	2,216
Term note payable, bearing interest at the "prime" rate (8.50% at December 31, 1997) plus 1.50%.....	6,111	9,750
Senior notes payable, bearing interest at 12.50%.....	50,000	50,000
Senior convertible notes, bearing interest at 10.00%.....	2,000	3,000
Junior subordinated note payable to Southdown Environmental Treatment Systems, Inc., bearing interest at the Bank's base rate plus 2.00%.....	--	188
Junior subordinated notes to the former owners of Mr. Frank, Inc., bearing interest at the Bank's base rate plus 1.00%.....	--	21
Obligations under capital leases.....	37	198
	73,707	75,373
Less--current maturities.....	4,037	4,370
Less--unamortized financing costs.....	1,650	2,335
Long-term obligations.....	\$ 68,020	\$ 68,668

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(9) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Below is a summary of minimum principal payments due under the Company's long-term obligations (in thousands), exclusive of obligations under capital leases discussed in Note 10:

YEAR	AMOUNT
1998.....	\$ 4,000
1999.....	9,659
2000.....	211
2001.....	50,100
2002.....	100
Thereafter.....	9,600
Total minimum payments due under long-term obligations including current maturities.....	\$ 73,670

(10) LEASES

(a) Capital Leases

The Company possesses certain equipment under capital leases. The obligations of the Company under such leases are collateralized by the leased equipment. The capitalized cost of this equipment was \$1,417,000 at December 31, 1997 and 1996 with related accumulated amortization of \$1,161,000, and \$1,142,000 at December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments under capital leases are as follows (in thousands):

YEAR	AMOUNT
1998.....	\$ 37
1999.....	--
2000.....	--
2001.....	--
2002.....	--
Thereafter.....	--
Total minimum lease payments.....	\$ 37
Less--amounts representing interest.....	--
Present value of minimum lease payments.....	\$ 37

(b) Operating Leases

The Company leases facilities and personal property under certain operating leases in excess of one year. Some of these lease agreements contain an escalation clause for increased taxes and operating

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(10) LEASES (CONTINUED)

expenses and are renewable at the option of the Company. Future minimum lease payments under operating leases are as follows (in thousands):

YEAR	FACILITIES	PERSONAL PROPERTY	TOTAL OPERATING LEASES
1998.....	\$ 2,660	\$ 4,534	\$ 7,194
1999.....	2,363	3,953	6,316

2000.....	1,800	2,789	4,589
2001.....	914	1,564	2,478
2002.....	793	370	1,163
Thereafter.....	2,170	273	2,443
	-----	-----	-----
	\$ 10,700	\$ 13,483	\$ 24,183
	-----	-----	-----

During the years 1997, 1996 and 1995 rent expense was approximately \$12,421,000, \$12,501,000, and \$14,120,000, respectively.

(11) FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes consists of the following (in thousands):

	1997	1996	1995
	-----	-----	-----
Federal: Current.....	\$ --	\$ (911)	\$ --
Deferred.....	1,878	(1,359)	(3,057)
State: Current.....	269	405	--
Deferred.....	2,698	(910)	(138)
	-----	-----	-----
Net provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	\$ 4,845	\$ (2,775)	\$ (3,195)
	-----	-----	-----

The sources of significant timing differences which gave rise to deferred taxes were as follows (in thousands):

	1997	1996	1995
	-----	-----	-----
Depreciation.....	\$ (370)	\$ (227)	\$ --
Provision for doubtful accounts.....	2	(8)	181
Insurance reserves.....	415	(596)	302
Litigation.....	(157)	348	(228)
Tax attributes.....	(864)	(1,378)	(2,582)
Permits.....	(212)	(224)	(224)
Other.....	(288)	(184)	(644)
Valuation Allowance.....	6,050	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
Total deferred tax provision (benefit).....	\$ 4,576	\$ (2,269)	\$ (3,195)
	-----	-----	-----

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(11) FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES (CONTINUED)

The effective income tax rate varies from the amount computed using the statutory federal income tax rate as follows:

	1997	1996	1995
	-----	-----	-----
Statutory rate.....	(34.0)%	(34.0)%	(34.0)%
Increase (decrease) in taxes resulting from:			
Valuation allowance.....	68.1	--	--
Adjustment of prior year's estimated attributes.....	11.9	--	--
Goodwill amortization.....	3.0	2.6	2.0
State income taxes, net of federal benefit.....	3.0	(0.8)	(0.9)
Other permanent differences.....	2.5	3.6	1.2
	-----	-----	-----

Net provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	54.5%	(28.6)%	(31.7)%
	-----	-----	-----
	-----	-----	-----

The components of the total deferred tax asset at December 31, 1997 and 1996 were as follows (in thousands):

	1997	1996
	-----	-----
Current:		
Workmens' compensation accrual.....	\$ 628	\$ --
Provision for doubtful accounts.....	423	425
Litigation accruals.....	475	144
Accrued rent holiday.....	88	--
Health insurance accrual.....	34	350
Miscellaneous.....	1,431	1,253
Tax credits.....	--	980
Valuation allowance.....	(1,498)	--
	-----	-----
Total current deferred tax asset.....	\$ 1,581	\$ 3,152
	-----	-----
Long-term:		
Net operating loss carryforwards.....	\$ 8,996	\$ 8,004
Tax credit carryforwards.....	1,927	1,074
Insurance reserve.....	--	627
Accrued rent holiday.....	--	68
Other.....	35	214
Valuation allowance.....	(5,331)	(779)
	-----	-----
Total long-term deferred tax asset.....	\$ 5,627	\$ 9,208
	-----	-----
Total deferred tax asset.....	\$ 7,208	\$ 12,360
	-----	-----
	-----	-----

49

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(11) FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES (CONTINUED)

The components of the total deferred tax liability at December 31, 1997 and 1996 were as follows (in thousands):

	1997	1996
	-----	-----
Current:		
Permits.....	\$ 224	\$ 224
	-----	-----
Long-term:		
Permits.....	1,777	1,990
Property, plant and equipment.....	5,094	5,463
	-----	-----
Total long-term deferred tax liability.....	6,871	7,453
	-----	-----
Total deferred tax liability.....	\$ 7,095	\$ 7,677
	-----	-----
Net deferred tax asset.....	\$ 113	\$ 4,683
	-----	-----
	-----	-----

SFAS 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes," requires that a valuation allowance be established when, based on an evaluation of objective verifiable evidence, there is a likelihood that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company continually reviews the adequacy of the valuation allowance for deferred tax assets, and, in 1997, based upon this review, the valuation allowance was increased by \$6,050,000, which resulted in a non-cash charge to operations of the same amount. The actual realization of the net

operating loss carryforwards and other tax assets depend on having future taxable income of the appropriate character prior to their expiration.

For federal income tax purposes at December 31, 1997, the Company has regular tax net operating loss carryforwards of \$17,905,000 and alternative minimum tax net operating loss carryforwards of \$2,712,000, which may be used to offset future taxable income, if any. These net operating loss carryforwards expire as follows (in thousands):

YEAR EXPIRES	ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX NOL	NOL
1998.....	\$ 421	\$ --
1999.....	118	--
2000.....	6	--
2001.....	420	489
2002.....	225	648
2003.....	1,522	2,196
2010 and thereafter.....	--	14,572

Amounts expiring in 2003 and prior may only be used to offset future taxable income, if any, of former ChemClear entities. In addition, the Company had \$1,687,000 of alternative minimum tax credits, which have no expiration.

During the ordinary course of its business, the Company is audited by federal and state tax authorities, which may result in proposed assessments. The Company received a notice of intent to assess state income taxes from one of the states in which it operates. This case is currently undergoing administrative appeal. If the Company loses the administrative appeal, the Company may be required to make a payment of

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(11) FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES (CONTINUED)

approximately \$3,000,000 to the state. A decision is expected within six months regarding the administrative appeal. The Company believes that it has properly reported its state income and intends to contest the assessment vigorously. While the Company believes that the final outcome of the dispute will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations, no assurance can be given as to the final outcome of the audit, the amount of any final adjustment or the potential impact of such adjustments on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

(12) LOSS PER SHARE

The following is a reconciliation of basic and diluted loss per share computations (in thousands except for per share amounts):

	YEAR ENDED 1997		
	INCOME (NUMERATOR)	SHARES (DENOMINATOR)	PER-SHARE LOSS
Net loss.....	\$ (13,728)		
Less preferred dividends.....	448		
Basic and diluted EPS (loss available to shareholders).....	\$ (14,176)	9,959	\$ (1.42)

YEAR ENDED 1996

	INCOME (NUMERATOR)	SHARES (DENOMINATOR)	PER-SHARE LOSS
Net loss.....	\$ (6,943)		
Less preferred dividends.....	447		
Basic and diluted EPS (loss available to shareholders).....	\$ (7,390)	9,653	\$ (.77)

YEAR ENDED 1995

	INCOME (NUMERATOR)	SHARES (DENOMINATOR)	PER-SHARE LOSS
Net loss.....	\$ (6,893)		
Less preferred dividends.....	447		
Basic and diluted EPS (loss available to shareholders).....	\$ (7,340)	9,475	\$ (.77)

The Company has issued options, warrants and convertible preferred stock which are potentially dilutive to earnings. These have not been included in the above calculations, since their inclusion would have been antidilutive for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996 and 1995.

(13) STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(a) Stock Option Plans

In 1987, the Company adopted a nonqualified stock option plan ("1987 Plan"). In 1992, the Company adopted an equity incentive plan, which provides for a variety of incentive awards, including stock options

51

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(13) STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (CONTINUED)

("1992 Plan"). As of December 31, 1997, all awards under the 1992 Plan were in the form of nonqualified stock options. These options generally become exercisable after a period of one to five years from the date of grant, subject to certain employment requirements, and terminate ten years from the date of grant. At December 31, 1997, the Company had reserved 955,600 and 1,250,000 shares of common stock for issuance under the 1987 and 1992 Plans, respectively.

Under the terms of the 1987 and 1992 Plans, as amended, options may be granted to purchase shares of common stock at an exercise price less than the fair market value on the date of grant. No compensation expense related to stock option grants was recorded in 1997, 1996 or 1995, as the option exercise prices were equal to, or greater than, the fair market value on the date of grant.

On December 19, 1996, the Compensation and Stock Option Committee of the Board of Directors approved a plan whereby the stock options previously granted to all employees at prices of \$2.70 to \$6.75 per share be repriced at then fair market value (\$2.125 per share) with the same vesting period commencing upon the date of the award of their original option agreement, except for 61,945 options for which the option life was extended five years.

On October 10, 1994, the Board of Directors approved a plan whereby all employees (excluding senior management) who previously were awarded stock options at prices of \$6.50 to \$15.00 per share be given the opportunity to surrender those options in exchange for new options awarded at fair market value

(\$6.00 per share) with the same vesting period commencing upon the date of the award of their original option agreement.

(b) Supplemental Disclosures for Stock-Based Compensation

The Company applies APB Opinion No. 25 and related Interpretations in accounting for the Plans. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation", ("SFAS 123"), issued in 1995, defined a fair value method of accounting for stock options and other equity instruments. Under the fair value method, compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is recognized over the service period, which is usually the vesting period. The Company elected to continue to apply the accounting provisions of APB Opinion No. 25 for stock options. The required disclosures under SFAS 123 as if the Company had applied the new method of accounting are made below.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(13) STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (CONTINUED)

Activity under the Plans for the year ended December 31, 1997 is as follows:

	NUMBER OF SHARES	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE
	-----	-----
Outstanding at December 31, 1994.....	1,061,877	\$ 6.36
Granted.....	362,120	3.12
Forfeited.....	(131,450)	6.85
Exercised.....	(5,556)	2.70
	-----	-----
Outstanding at December 31, 1995.....	1,286,991	5.42
Granted.....	597,350	2.54
Forfeited.....	(417,393)	5.64
Exercised.....	--	--
	-----	-----
Outstanding at December 31, 1996.....	1,466,948	\$ 2.52
Granted.....	137,750	2.01
Forfeited.....	(293,338)	3.66
Exercised.....	(8,800)	2.13
	-----	-----
Outstanding at December 31, 1997.....	1,302,560	\$ 2.21
	-----	-----

Summarized information about stock options outstanding at December 31, 1997 is as follows:

RANGE OF EXERCISE PRICES	NUMBER OF OPTIONS OUTSTANDING	WEIGHTED AVERAGE REMAINING CONTRACTUAL LIFE	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE	EXERCISABLE	
				NUMBER OF OPTIONS	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE
				-----	-----
\$ 1.56- 2.13	1,224,232	7.1	\$ 2.10	553,144	\$ 2.12
2.50- 3.38	61,120	8.2	2.65	10,120	3.33
6.50- 8.25	11,208	2.4	6.77	11,208	6.77
13.25-13.50	6,000	2.6	13.38	5,400	13.39

Options exercisable at December 31, 1995, 1996 and 1997 were 468,458, 508,780 and 579,872, respectively. The weighted average exercise prices for the

exercisable options at December 31, 1995, 1996 and 1997 were \$6.20, \$3.23, and \$2.34, respectively.

The fair value of each option granted during 1997 and 1996 is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following assumptions:

	1997	1996
	-----	-----
Dividend yield.....	none	none
Expected volatility.....	61.9%	64.4%
Risk-free interest rate.....	6.3%	5.6%
Expected life.....	6.0	6.1

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(13) STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (CONTINUED)

Weighted average fair value of options granted at fair value during:

1997.....	\$ 0.93

1996.....	\$ 0.97

1995.....	\$ 2.14

Weighted average fair value of options granted at greater than fair value during:

1997.....	\$ 0.88

1996.....	\$ --

1995.....	\$ --

Had compensation cost for the Company's stock option grants been determined based on the fair value at the grant dates, as calculated in accordance with SFAS 123, the Company's net income and net income per common share for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996 and 1995, would approximate the pro forma amounts as compared to the amounts reported:

NET LOSS	NET LOSS
-----	-----
NET LOSS	PER BASIC AND DILUTED SHARE
-----	-----

As reported:		
1997.....	\$ (13,728,000)	\$ (1.42)
1996.....	(6,943,000)	(0.77)
1995.....	(6,893,000)	(0.77)
Proforma:		
1997.....	\$ (14,091,000)	\$ (1.46)
1996.....	(7,251,000)	(0.81)
1995.....	(6,922,000)	(0.78)

The effects of applying SFAS 123 in this pro forma disclosure are not indicative of future amounts. SFAS 123 does not apply to awards made prior to 1995. Additional awards in future years are anticipated.

(c) Employee Stock Purchase Plan

In May of 1995, the Company's stockholders approved an Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP"), which is a qualified employee stock purchase plan under Section 423 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, through which employees of the Company are given the opportunity to purchase shares of common stock. According to the ESPP, a total of one million shares of common stock has been reserved for offering to employees over a period of five years, in quarterly offerings of 50,000 shares each plus any shares not issued in any previous quarter, commencing on July 1, 1995 and on the first day of each quarter thereafter through April 1, 2000. Employees who elect to participate in an offering may utilize up to 10% of their payroll for the purchase of common stock at 85% of the closing price of the stock on the first day of such quarterly offering or, if lower, 85% of the closing price on the last day of the offering. As of December 31, 1997 and 1996, 99,000 and 65,000 shares, respectively, of common stock had

54

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(13) STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (CONTINUED)

been purchased under the ESPP. The weighted average fair per share value of the purchase rights granted under the ESPP during 1997, 1996 and 1995 were \$0.33, \$0.72 and \$0.84, respectively.

(d) Warrants

In connection with the issuance of senior subordinated notes payable in May 1989, the Company issued warrants to purchase 100,000 shares of common stock at \$20.75 per share in exchange for \$300,000. In April 1990, the exercise price of the warrants was reduced to \$9 per share. In February 1991, in connection with the refinancing of the Company's short-term debt, the exercise price was further reduced to fair market value (\$5 per share). These warrants are exercisable at any time until February 1, 2001.

In connection with the refinancing of the Company's short-term debt in February 1991, the Company issued warrants to purchase 425,000 shares of common stock at fair market value (\$5 per share) to the three banks which provided the Revolver. These warrants are exercisable at any time until February 6, 2001.

(e) Preferred Stock

On February 16, 1993 the Company issued 112,000 shares of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, \$.01 par value ("Preferred Stock"), for the acquisition of Spring Grove. The liquidation value of each preferred share is the liquidation preference of \$50 plus unpaid dividends. Preferred Stock may be converted by the holder into Common Stock at a conversion rate of \$18.63. There is no expiration date associated with the conversion option. The Company had the option to redeem such Preferred Stock at liquidation value plus a redemption premium of 5%, if the redemption occurred on or before August 16, 1997; thereafter, the redemption premium declines 1% each year. Each preferred share entitles its holder to receive a cumulative annual cash dividend of \$4.00 per

share, or at the election of the Company, a common stock dividend of equivalent value.

Dividends on the Preferred Stock are payable on the 15th day of January, April, July and October, at the rate of \$1.00 per share, per quarter. The Company elected to pay the 1997 dividends in common stock with a market value equal to the amount of the dividend payable. During 1997 the Company issued 250,523 shares of common stock to the holders of the Preferred Stock. The Company anticipates that the Preferred Stock dividends payable through 1998 will be paid in common stock.

(14) EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN

The Company has a profit-sharing plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code covering substantially all employees. The plan allows employees to make contributions up to a specified percentage of their compensation. The Company modified the plan during 1996 whereby the Company has an option of contributing to the plan. No contribution was made by the Company in 1997 or 1996. During 1995, the Company's contribution aggregated approximately \$834,000.

(15) RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company leased certain facilities from a partnership of which the Company's principal stockholder is a limited partner. Under the terms of the lease, the Company agreed to make aggregate lease payments of \$5,633,000 from the inception of the lease through June 1, 1996. The Company did not elect its option to renew the lease. Total rent expense charged to operations for the years ending December 31,

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(15) RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

1996, and 1995 was \$234,000 and \$703,000, respectively. See Note 10 for further discussion of lease commitments.

(16) QUARTERLY DATA (UNAUDITED)

	FIRST QUARTER	SECOND QUARTER	THIRD QUARTER	FOURTH QUARTER
1997				
(IN THOUSANDS EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)				
Revenue.....	\$ 40,374	\$ 47,363	\$ 50,137	\$ 45,893
Income (loss) from operations.....	(1,676)	1,501	1,329	(1,655)
Net loss.....	(1,983)	(883)	(786)	(10,076)
Net loss per common share.....	(.21)	(.10)	(.09)	(1.02)
1996				
Revenue.....	\$ 45,736	\$ 49,638	\$ 50,738	\$ 54,101
Income (loss) from operations.....	(847)	(1,093)	39	1,353
Net loss.....	(1,642)	(2,605)	(1,742)	(954)
Net loss per common share.....	(.18)	(.28)	(.19)	(.11)

The above information reflects all adjustments that are necessary to fairly state the results of the interim periods presented. Any adjustments required are of a normal recurring nature. The first quarter of 1997 includes \$800,000 of net other income, as discussed in Note 18.

(17) NONRECURRING CHARGES

During 1995, the Company recorded a \$4,247,000 nonrecurring charge in connection with the reengineering of the Company's operations and the write-off of a non-performing asset, as well as the anticipated losses on the sale of

certain non-core properties. Under the reengineering program, the Company closed or downsized small, satellite offices; eliminated positions, which were primarily administrative; downsized and relocated the laboratory to its waste handling facility in Braintree, Massachusetts; and relocated its corporate headquarters to a new location in Braintree, Massachusetts. The components of the nonrecurring charge are as follows:

Severance and related costs.....	\$1,097,000
Write-down of non-performing asset.....	1,110,000
Real estate related charges.....	2,040,000

	\$4,247,000

(18) OTHER INCOME

During the first quarter of 1997, the Company recorded a \$950,000 receivable in connection with the settlement of a lawsuit and incurred approximately \$150,000 in costs related to the litigation during the first quarter. The Company recognized a pre-tax gain, net of related legal fees, of \$800,000 resulting from the settlement, which is included in other income, net, in the consolidated statements of operations.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

SCHEDULE II

VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1997
(IN THOUSANDS)

ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS	BALANCE BEGINNING OF PERIOD	ADDITIONS CHARGED TO OPERATING EXPENSE	DEDUCTIONS FROM RESERVES (A)	BALANCE END OF PERIOD
1995.....	\$ 1,495	\$ 381	\$ 831	\$ 1,045
1996.....	1,045	651	633	1,063
1997.....	1,063	683	696	1,050

(a) Amounts deemed uncollectible, net of recoveries.

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

None.

PART III

The information called for by Item 10 (Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant), Item 11 (Executive Compensation), Item 12 (Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management) and Item 13 (Certain Relationships and Related Transactions) is incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's definitive proxy statement for its 1998 Annual Meeting of

Stockholders, which definitive proxy statement is expected to be filed with the Commission not later than April 30, 1998.

For the purpose of calculating the aggregate market value of the voting stock of the registrant held by nonaffiliates as shown on the cover page of this report, it has been assumed that the directors and executive officers of the registrant, as will be set forth in the Company's definitive proxy statement for its 1998 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, are the only affiliates of the registrant. However, this should not be deemed to constitute an admission that all of such persons are, in fact, affiliates or that there are not other persons who may be deemed affiliates of the registrant.

PART IV

ITEM 14. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES, AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) Documents Filed as a Part of this Report

	PAGE

1. Financial Statements:	
Report of Independent Accountants.....	30
Consolidated Statements of Income for the Three Years Ended December 31, 1997.....	31
Consolidated Balance Sheets, December 31, 1997 and 1996.....	32-33
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Three Years Ended December 31, 1997.....	34-35
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the Three Years Ended December 31, 1997.....	36
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.....	37-56
2. Financial Statement Schedules:	
Schedule II--Valuation and Qualifying Accounts.....	57

All other schedules are omitted because they are not applicable, not required, or because the required information is included in the financial statements or notes thereto.

58

3. Exhibits:

Exhibits to the Form 10-K have been included only with the copies of the Form 10-K filed with the Commission. Upon request to the Company and payment of a reasonable fee, copies of the individual exhibits will be furnished. The Company undertakes to furnish to the Commission upon request copies of instruments (in addition to the exhibits listed below) relating to the Company's long-term debt.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION

3.1	Restated Articles of Organization of Clean Harbors, Inc. and amendments thereto.....	See Note: (1)
3.2	Certificate of Vote of Directors Establishing a Series of a Class of Stock (Series B Convertible Preferred Stock).....	(2)
3.4A	Amended and Restated By-laws of Clean Harbors, Inc.....	(3)
4.1	Senior Note Indenture dated as of August 4, 1994, between Clean Harbors, Inc., the Guarantor Subsidiaries of the Company, and Shawmut Bank, N.A., as trustee for the holders of the Company's 12.50% Senior Notes due May 15, 2001.....	(4)
4.2	Loan and Security Agreement dated May 8, 1995 by and between Congress Financial Corporation (New England) and the Company's Subsidiaries as Borrowers.....	(5)
4.3	Term Promissory Note dated May 8, 1995 from the Company's Subsidiaries as Debtors to Congress Financial Corporation (New England) in the amount of \$10,000,000.....	(5)
4.4	Guarantee dated May 8, 1995 by Clean Harbors, Inc. to Congress Financial Corporation (New England) of the obligations of the Company's Subsidiaries under the Financing Agreements.....	(5)
4.5	General Security Agreement dated May 8, 1995 by Clean Harbors, Inc. in favor of Congress Financial Corporation (New England).....	(5)
4.6	Letter Agreement dated November 21, 1995 by and between Congress Financial Corporation (New England) and the Company's Subsidiaries as Borrowers.....	(8)
4.7	Second Amendment to Financing Agreements dated March 20, 1996 by and between Congress Financial Corporation (New England), the Company's Subsidiaries as Borrowers and	

	Clean Harbors, Inc. as Guarantor.....	(8)
4.8	Amended and Restated Term Promissory Note dated March 20, 1996 from the Company's Subsidiaries as Debtors to Congress Financial Corporation (New England) in the amount of \$15,000,000.....	(8)
4.9	Third Amendment to Financing Agreements dated September 6, 1996 by and between Congress Financial Corporation (New England), the Company's Subsidiaries as Borrowers, and Clean Harbors, Inc. as Guarantor.....	(9)
4.10	Fourth Amendment to Financing Agreements dated June 20, 1997 by and between Congress Financial Corporation (New England), the Company's Subsidiaries as Borrowers, and Clean Harbors, Inc. as Guarantor.....	Filed herewith
4.11	Fifth Amendment to Financing Agreements dated January 1, 1998 by and between Congress Financial Corporation (New England), the Company's Subsidiaries as Borrowers, and Clean Harbors, Inc. as Guarantor.....	Filed herewith

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
10.35	Stock Purchase Agreement among Clean Harbors, Inc., Southdown Environmental Treatment Systems, Inc. and Southdown, Inc. dated as of June 23, 1992.....	(2)
10.36	Stock Purchase Agreement among Clean Harbors, Inc., Southdown Environmental Treatment Systems, Inc. and Southdown, Inc. dated as of February 16, 1993.....	(2)
10.37	Clean Harbors, Inc. 1987 Stock Option Plan.....	(6)
10.38	Clean Harbors, Inc. 1992 Equity Incentive Plan.....	(6)
10.39	Asset Purchase Agreement among Clean Harbors of Chicago, Inc., Clean Harbors, Inc., CWM Chemical Services, Inc. and Chemical Waste Management, Inc. dated as of January 30, 1995.....	(7)
10.40	Asset Purchase Agreement among Clean Harbors Technology Corporation, Clean Harbors Inc. and Ecova Corporation dated as of March 31, 1995.....	(5)
10.41	Disposal Services Agreement by and between Chemical Waste Management, Inc. and its subsidiary and affiliated companies and Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. and its affiliated companies dated as of October 31, 1995.....	(8)
10.42	Employment Agreement between the Company and David A. Eckert dated March 14, 1996, as modified on March 4, 1998.....	Filed herewith
21	Subsidiaries.....	Filed herewith
23	Consent of Independent Accountants.....	Filed herewith
24	Power of Attorney for Christy W. Bell, John F. Kaslow, Daniel J. McCarthy, John T. Preston, and Lorne R. Waxlax.....	Filed herewith
27	Financial Data Schedule.....	Filed herewith

- (1) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form S-1 Registration Statement (No. 33-17565).
- (2) Incorporated by reference to the similarly numbered exhibit to the Company's Form 10-K Annual Report for the Year 1992.
- (3) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.4A to the Company's Form 10-K Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 1991.
- (4) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Form S-2 Registration Statement (No. 33-54191).
- (5) Incorporated by reference to the similarly numbered exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q Quarterly Report for the Quarterly Period Ended June 30, 1995.
- (6) Incorporated by reference to the similarly numbered exhibit to the Company's Form 10-K Annual Report for the Year 1993.
- (7) Incorporated by reference to the similarly numbered exhibit to the Company's Form 10-K Annual Report for the Year 1994.
- (8) Incorporated by reference to the similarly numbered exhibit to the Company's Form 10-K Annual Report for the Year 1995.
- (9) Incorporated by reference to the similarly numbered exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q Quarterly Report for the Quarterly Period ended September 30, 1996.
- (b) Reports on Form 8-K

No reports on Form 8-K were filed during the fourth quarter of 1997.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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 on March 27, 1998.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.

By: /s/ ALAN S. MCKIM,

Alan S. Mckim,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE
/s/ ALAN S. MCKIM ----- Alan S. McKim	Chairman Of The Board Of Directors, President and Chief Executive Officer	March 27, 1998
/s/ CARL D. PASCHETAG, JR. ----- Carl D. Paschetag, Jr.	Vice President, Financial Controller and Treasurer (principal financial and accounting officer)	March 27, 1998
* ----- Christy W. Bell	Director	March 27, 1998
* ----- John F. Kaslow	Director	March 27, 1998
* ----- Daniel J. McCarthy	Director	March 27, 1998
* ----- John T. Preston	Director	March 27, 1998
* ----- Lorne R. Waxlax	Director	March 27, 1998

*By: -----
Alan S. McKim
ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

June 20, 1997

CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS TECHNOLOGY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS KINGSTON FACILITY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS OF BRAINTREE, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS SERVICES, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF NATICK, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
MURPHY'S WASTE OIL SERVICE, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF CLEVELAND, INC.
MR. FRANK, INC.
SPRING GROVE RESOURCE RECOVERY, INC.

Re: Fourth Amendment to Financing Agreements ("Fourth Amendment")

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the Loan and Security Agreement dated May 8, 1995, as amended, between you and the undersigned (the "Loan Agreement"). All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given such terms in the Loan Agreement.

Borrowers have requested an extension of the term of the Financing Agreements to May 8, 1999 and amendments to certain of the covenants therein. Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Lender agrees with the Borrowers as follows:

(1) The first sentence of Section 12.1(a) of the Loan Agreement is deleted and replaced with the following sentence:

"This Agreement and the other Financing Agreements shall become effective as of the date set forth on the first page hereof and shall continue in full force and effect for a term ending on the date four (4) years from the date hereof (the "Renewal Date"), and from year to year thereafter, unless sooner terminated pursuant to the terms hereof; provided, that, Lender may, at its option, extend the Renewal Date to the date five (5) years from the date hereof by giving Borrower notice at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the fourth anniversary of this Agreement."

1

(2) Section 12.1(c) of the Loan Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"If for any reason this Agreement is terminated prior to the end of the then current term or renewal term of this Agreement, in view of the impracticality and extreme difficulty of ascertaining actual damages and by mutual agreement of the parties as to a reasonable calculation of Lender's lost profits as a result thereof, Borrower agrees to pay to Lender, upon the effective date of such termination, an early termination fee in the amount of (i) 1% of the Revolving Credit Limit if such termination is effective in the period May 9, 1997 to and including May 8, 1998, and (ii) .5% of the Revolving Credit Limit if such termination is effective in the

period May 9, 1998 to and including May 8, 1999. Such early termination fee shall be presumed to be the amount of damages sustained by Lender as a result of such early termination and Borrower agrees that it is reasonable under the circumstances currently existing. The refinancing and repayment of the Term Loan through the issuance of pollution control authority industrial revenue bonds shall not trigger the payment of the early termination fee. The early termination fee provided for in this Section 12.1 shall be deemed included in the Obligations."

(3) Section 9.13 of the Loan Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"Parent shall, at all times, maintain Working Capital of not less than \$10,000,000.00."

(4) Section 9.14 of the Loan Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"Parent shall, at all times, maintain Adjusted Net Worth of not less than \$40,000,000.00."

(5) This Fourth Amendment and the Lender's obligations hereunder shall not be effective until each of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) all requisite corporate action and proceedings of the Borrowers in connection with this Fourth Amendment shall be satisfactory in form and substance to Lender and Lender shall receive certified copies of such corporate action and proceedings as Lender may request;

(b) no material adverse change shall have occurred in the assets, business or prospects of any Borrower since the date of the most recent financial statements furnished to Lender pursuant to the Loan Agreement and no change or event shall have occurred which would impair the ability of any Borrower or any Obligor to

2

perform its obligations under the Loan Agreement or any of the other Financing Agreements or of Lender to enforce the Obligations or to realize upon the Collateral; and

(c) Borrowers shall pay to Lender, and directs Lender to debit its loan account for, an additional facility fee equal to \$50,000.00, which fee shall be fully earned and non-refundable on the date hereof.

(6) Each Borrower confirms and agrees that (a) all representations and warranties contained in the Loan Agreement and in the other Financing Agreements are on the date hereof true and correct in all material respects (except for changes that have occurred as permitted by the covenants in Section 9 of the Loan Agreement), and (b) it is unconditionally and jointly and severally liable for the punctual and full payment of all Obligations, including, without limitation, all charges, fees, expenses and costs (including attorneys' fees and expenses) under the Financing Agreements, and that no Borrower has any defenses, counterclaims or setoffs with respect to full, complete and timely payment of all Obligations.

(7) Each Guarantor, for value received, hereby assents to the Borrowers' execution and delivery of this Amendment, and to the performance by the Borrowers of their respective agreements and obligations hereunder. This Amendment and the performance or consummation of any transaction or matter contemplated under this Amendment, shall not limit, restrict, extinguish or otherwise impair any of the Guarantor's liability to Lender with respect to the payment and other performance obligations of the Guarantors pursuant to the Guarantees, dated May 8, 1995 executed for the benefit of Lender. Each

Guarantor acknowledges that it is unconditionally liable to Lender for the full and complete payment of all Obligations including, without limitation, all charges, fees, expenses and costs (including attorney's fees and expenses) under the Financing Agreements and that such Guarantor has no defenses, counterclaims or setoffs with respect to full, complete and timely payment of any and all Obligations.

(8) Borrowers hereby agree to pay to Lender all reasonable attorney's fees and costs which have been incurred or may in the future be incurred by Lender in connection with the negotiation and preparation of this Amendment and any other documents and agreements prepared in connection with this Amendment. The undersigned confirm that the Financing Agreements remain in full force and effect without amendment or modification of any kind, except for the amendments explicitly set forth herein. The undersigned further confirm that no Event of Default or events which with notice or the passage of time or both would constitute an Event of Default have occurred and are continuing. The execution and delivery of this Amendment by Lender shall not be construed as a waiver by Lender of any Event of Default under the Financing Agreements. This Amendment shall be deemed to be a Financing Agreement and, together with the other Financing Agreements, constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior dealings, correspondence, conversations or communications between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

3

If you accept and agree to the foregoing please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

CONGRESS FINANCIAL CORPORATION
(NEW ENGLAND)

By: /s/ KATHLEEN J. MERRITT

Name: Kathleen J. Merritt

Title: Assistant Vice President

AGREED:

CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS TECHNOLOGY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS KINGSTON FACILITY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS OF BRAINTREE, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS SERVICES, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF NATICK, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
MURPHY'S WASTE OIL SERVICE, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF CLEVELAND, INC.
MR. FRANK, INC.
SPRING GROVE RESOURCE RECOVERY, INC.

By: /s/ STEVEN MOYNIHAN

Name: Steven Moynihan
Title: Senior Vice President

GUARANTORS:

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.

By: /s/ STEVEN MOYNIHAN

Name: Steven Moynihan
Title: Senior Vice President

CLEAN HARBORS OF BALTIMORE, INC.

By: /s/ STEVEN MOYNIHAN

Name: Steven Moynihan
Title: Senior Vice President

January 1, 1998

CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS TECHNOLOGY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS KINGSTON FACILITY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS OF BRAINTREE, INC.
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CLEAN HARBORS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
MURPHY'S WASTE OIL SERVICE, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF CLEVELAND, INC.
MR. FRANK, INC.
SPRING GROVE RESOURCE RECOVERY, INC.

Re: Fifth Amendment to Financing Agreements ("Fifth Amendment")

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the Loan and Security Agreement dated May 8, 1995, as amended, between you and the undersigned (the "Loan Agreement"). All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given such terms in the Loan Agreement.

Borrowers have requested amendments to certain of the covenants set forth in the Loan Agreement. Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Lender agrees with the Borrowers as follows:

(1) Section 9.13 of the Loan Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"Parent shall, at all times, maintain Working Capital of not less than \$6,000,000.00."

(2) Section 9.14 of the Loan Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"Parent shall, at all times, maintain Adjusted Net Worth of not less than \$33,000,000.00."

(3) This Fifth Amendment and the Lender's obligations hereunder shall not be

1

effective until each of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) all requisite corporate action and proceedings of the Borrowers in connection with this Fifth Amendment shall be satisfactory in form and substance to Lender and Lender shall receive certified copies of such corporate action and proceedings as Lender may request;

(b) no material adverse change shall have occurred in the assets, business or prospects of any Borrower since the date of the most recent financial statements furnished to Lender pursuant to the Loan Agreement and no change or event shall have occurred which would impair the ability of any

Borrower or any Obligor to perform its obligations under the Loan Agreement or any of the other Financing Agreements or of Lender to enforce the Obligations or to realize upon the Collateral.

(4) Each Borrower confirms and agrees that (a) all representations and warranties contained in the Loan Agreement and in the other Financing Agreements are on the date hereof true and correct in all material respects (except for changes that have occurred as permitted by the covenants in Section 9 of the Loan Agreement), and (b) it is unconditionally and jointly and severally liable for the punctual and full payment of all Obligations, including, without limitation, all charges, fees, expenses and costs (including attorneys' fees and expenses) under the Financing Agreements, and that no Borrower has any defenses, counterclaims or setoffs with respect to full, complete and timely payment of all Obligations.

(5) Each Guarantor, for value received, hereby assents to the Borrowers' execution and delivery of this Fifth Amendment, and to the performance by the Borrowers of their respective agreements and obligations hereunder. This Amendment and the performance or consummation of any transaction or matter contemplated under this Amendment, shall not limit, restrict, extinguish or otherwise impair any of the Guarantor's liability to Lender with respect to the payment and other performance obligations of the Guarantors pursuant to the Guarantees, dated May 8, 1995 executed for the benefit of Lender. Each Guarantor acknowledges that it is unconditionally liable to Lender for the full and complete payment of all Obligations including, without limitation, all charges, fees, expenses and costs (including attorney's fees and expenses) under the Financing Agreements and that such Guarantor has no defenses, counterclaims or setoffs with respect to full, complete and timely payment of any and all Obligations.

(6) Borrowers hereby agree to pay to Lender all reasonable attorney's fees and costs which have been incurred or may in the future be incurred by Lender in connection with the negotiation and preparation of this Fifth Amendment and any other documents and agreements prepared in connection with this Fifth Amendment. The undersigned confirm that the Financing Agreements remain in full force and effect without amendment or modification of any kind, except for the amendments explicitly set forth herein. The undersigned further confirm that no Event of Default or events which with notice or the passage of time or both would constitute an Event of Default have occurred

and are continuing. The execution and delivery of this Fifth Amendment by Lender shall not be construed as a waiver by Lender of any Event of Default under the Financing Agreements. This Fifth Amendment shall be deemed to be a Financing Agreement and, together with the other Financing Agreements, constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior dealings, correspondence, conversations or communications between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

If you accept and agree to the foregoing please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

CONGRESS FINANCIAL CORPORATION
(NEW ENGLAND)

By: /s/ KATHLEEN J. MERRITT

Name: Kathleen J. Merritt

Title: Assistant Vice President

AGREED:

CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS TECHNOLOGY
CORPORATION
CLEAN HARBORS KINGSTON FACILITY
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MURPHY'S WASTE OIL SERVICE, INC.
CLEAN HARBORS OF CLEVELAND, INC.
MR. FRANK, INC.
SPRING GROVE RESOURCE RECOVERY, INC.

By: /s/ STEVEN MOYNIHAN

Name: Steven Moynihan
Title: Senior Vice President

3

GUARANTORS:

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.

By: /s/ STEVEN MOYNIHAN

Name: Steven Moynihan
Title: Senior Vice President

CLEAN HARBORS OF BALTIMORE, INC.

By: /s/ STEVEN MOYNIHAN

Name: Steven Moynihan
Title: Senior Vice President

4

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This Employment Agreement is entered into as of this 14th day of March, 1996 by and between Clean Harbors, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation having its principal place of business at 325 Wood Road, Braintree, Massachusetts 02184 (the "Company") and David A. Eckert of Wayland, Massachusetts (the "Executive").

RECITALS

The Executive possesses useful knowledge and skills and has extensive management experience.

The Company desires to engage the Executive and to assure itself of the Executive's continued employment with the Company, and the Executive desires to commit himself to serve the Company on the terms and conditions herein provided.

AGREEMENT

Now, therefore, in consideration of the foregoing and of the respective covenants and agreements set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

1. Employment. The Company shall employ the Executive and the Executive will serve the Company as Executive Vice President of the Company and as Chief Operating Officer of Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. upon the terms and conditions provided herein. In the discharge of his duties hereunder, the Executive shall report to the Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

During the period of his employment hereunder, the Executive shall perform all duties and services hereunder faithfully and to the best of his abilities on a full-time basis and shall perform such additional duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Chief Executive Officer or the Board of Directors of the Company which are not (except with the Executive's consent) inconsistent with the Executive's role in a senior management position with the Company.

During the term of this Agreement, the Executive shall not be engaged in any other activities which materially interfere with the Executive's full-time obligations and duties to the Company, except for those other activities that shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the Company. The Executive shall be entitled to manage his own personal investments provided such investments are not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement.

The Board of Directors of the Company has voted to increase the number of its members and to appoint the Executive to the Board of Directors of the Company. While the Executive continues to be employed hereunder, upon expiration of his term as a director, the Company shall

propose to the shareholders of the Company, at the appropriate annual meeting, the election or re-election of the Executive as a member of the Board; provided, however, if the Executive's employment hereunder shall terminate for any reason, he shall forthwith submit his resignation as a director of the Company, and it shall be a condition of the payment of any Severance which may be due the Executive hereunder that the Executive shall have resigned from his position as a director.

2. Term. The term of the Executive's employment hereunder ("Term") shall commence on March 18, 1996 and shall continue for a term of three (3) years unless earlier terminated as provided herein.

3. Base Salary. The Company agrees to pay and the Executive agrees to accept, in accordance with the provisions contained herein, a Base Salary at the annual rate of not less than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) per year, payable in equal installments, in accordance with the Company's normal executive pay policies but not less frequently than monthly, less usual payroll deductions. Base Salary may be increased at the sole discretion of, and in an amount determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company.

4. Bonus. The Executive will participate in the Company's management bonus plan and shall be entitled to a bonus, if any, in accordance therewith; provided, however, that during the period from the date of this Agreement through the end of 1996, the Executive's Bonus shall be based upon the Company's achieving certain EBITDA targets between \$22 million and \$35 million: No Bonus at \$22 million or less EBITDA, a Bonus of 50 percent of Base Salary if the Company achieves EBITDA of \$28.5 million; and a Bonus of 100 percent of Base Salary will be paid if the Company achieves EBITDA of \$35 million or more, with a proportional Bonus to be paid based upon achievement of EBITDA between those target points, interpolated on a straight line basis. For example, if the Company achieves EBITDA of \$30 million, the Executive will receive a Bonus of \$153,846 ($35m - 22m = 13m$; $30m - 22m = 8m$; $(8/13) \times (250,000) = \$153,846$).

5. Stock Options. The Executive will receive ten (10) year options under the Company's 1992 Equity Incentive Plan for 250,000 shares of the Company's common stock, in accordance with the form of option agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

6. Benefits. The Executive will be entitled to such annual vacation as shall be agreed upon between the Executive and the Chief Executive Officer of the Company as well as any fringe benefits and perquisites that may from time to time be afforded generally to senior executive officers of the Company. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Executive shall be entitled to participate in or receive benefits under any 401(k), pension or a retirement plan, life insurance, health and accident plan or other arrangement made available by the Company now or in the future, generally to the senior executive officers of the Company,

-2-

subject to and on a basis consistent with the terms, conditions and overall administration of such plans and arrangements and of the terms of this Agreement.

7. Expenses. The Executive shall be entitled to receive prompt reimbursement for all reasonable expenses incurred by him (in accordance with the policies and procedures established from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Company or any committee thereof) in the performance of his duties hereunder, provided such expenses are properly accounted for in accordance with the Company's policies.

8. Automobile. During his employment with the Company, the Executive shall be provided with an automobile allowance of \$350/month plus \$.09 per mile for business use.

9. Termination.

(a) Death. The Executive's employment hereunder shall terminate upon his death.

(b) Cause. The Company may terminate the Executive's employment hereunder for Cause. For the purposes of this Agreement, "Cause" shall mean: (i) a criminal conviction; or (ii) the engaging by the Executive in willful misconduct materially injurious to the Company or any of its subsidiary or affiliated corporations.

(c) Disability. The Company may terminate the Executive's employment hereunder if, as a result of the Executive's incapacity due to physical or mental illness, the Executive shall have been absent from his duties hereunder on a full time basis for ninety (90) consecutive days, or for ninety (90) days cumulatively within any twelve (12) month period, or if in the opinion of a duly licensed physician the same is likely to occur. In connection with this Section 9(c), the Executive agrees to submit to an examination and testing by a physician chosen by the Company.

(d) No-Cause. The Company may terminate this Agreement at any time without cause provided the Company shall pay the Employee severance as provided in Section 10 below.

(e) Notice of Termination. Any termination by the Company other than pursuant to subsection (a) hereof shall be communicated by written Notice of Termination to the Executive. For purposes of this Agreement, a "Notice of Termination" shall mean a notice which shall indicate the specific reason for termination.

10. Compensation Upon Termination.

(a) If the Executive's employment hereunder shall be terminated for any reason, the Company will pay the Executive his full compensation and other benefits through the date of termination at the rate then in effect.

-3-

(b) If the Company shall terminate this Agreement pursuant to subsections (c) or (d) of Section 9, the Company shall pay the Executive severance pay ("Severance") equal to Base Salary in effect at the time of termination for the twelve (12) months following the date of termination (offset by any disability insurance which may be paid to the Executive in the event of termination under subsection (c)); provided, however, Severance shall cease in any event as of any earlier date upon which the Executive shall obtain new employment.

(c) If (i) this Agreement shall not be renewed or extended by the Company prior to the end of the Term, and (ii) the Company shall have failed to notify the Executive of its intention not to renew or extend this Agreement at least six (6) months prior to the expiration of the Term, then upon the expiration of this Agreement, the Company shall pay the Executive Severance until the first to occur of (x) one (1) year after termination of this Agreement or (y) the earlier date upon which the Executive shall obtain new employment. If the Company shall notify the Executive of its intent not to renew or extend this Agreement at least six (6) months prior to the expiration of the Term, then the Company shall pay the Executive Severance for a period after expiration of the Term until the first to occur of (x) one (1) year less the period of notice prior to the expiration of the Term (during which time the Executive will be receiving full compensation hereunder), and (y) such earlier date upon which the Executive shall obtain new employment. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Executive shall be free after the receipt of notice from the Company of its intention not to renew or extend the Term to spend reasonable time to seek other employment.

(d) Severance shall be paid in the same manner as Base Salary is paid under Section 3 above.

11. Non-Competition; Solicitation.

(a) The Executive agrees that so long as he is employed hereunder and for a period of two (2) years thereafter, he shall not serve, directly or indirectly, as an operator, owner, partner, consultant, officer, director, or employee of any firm or corporation which, as of the date of termination of employment, is or has plans to be substantially and directly in competition within the United States of America with the Company. It is agreed that the

remedy at law for any breach of the foregoing shall be inadequate and that the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief in the enforcement thereof in addition to any other remedy permitted by law. In the event that this section shall be determined by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable by reason of its extending for too great a period of time or over too large a geographic area or over too great a range of activities, it shall be interpreted to extend over the maximum period of time, geographic area or range of activities as to which it may be enforceable. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Executive from holding or investing in securities listed on a national securities exchange or sold in the over-the-counter market, provided such investments do not exceed in the aggregate one (1%) percent of the issued and outstanding capital stock of a corporation which is a competitor within the meaning of this section.

-4-

(b) The Executive further agrees that during the term of this Agreement and for a period of two (2) years thereafter, he shall not, directly or indirectly, either solicit or induce any customers of the Company or its affiliates to patronize any business which competes with that of the Company, or solicit or induce any employees of the Company to leave employment with the Company.

(c) If it should be established by any court of competent jurisdiction that the Executive has breached the provisions of this Section 11, the Executive shall reimburse to the Company any Severance which he has received from the Company in addition to any other damages which may be awarded to the Company for any breach of this Section 11 or any other section of this Agreement.

(d) The provisions of subsection (a) above shall no longer apply if the Company shall be in default of this Agreement after having received written notice of such default and having failed to cure such default within thirty (30) days.

12. Successors: Binding Agreement.

(a) As used in this Agreement, the "Company" shall mean the Company as hereinbefore defined and any successor to its business and/or assets as aforesaid which expressly or otherwise becomes bound by all the terms and provisions of this Agreement and any affiliate or subsidiary of the Company.

(b) This Agreement and all rights and obligations of the Executive hereunder shall inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by and against the Executive's personal or legal representatives, executors, administrators, successors, heirs, distributees, devisees and legatees.

13. Notice. All communications provided for herein shall be in writing, and if addressed to the Executive shall only be hand delivered or sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepared or by a national, overnight courier delivery service addressed to:

David A. Eckert
22 Campbell Road
Wayland, MA 01778

With a copy to:

Christopher J. Perry, Esq.
Hale and Dorr
60 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-1816

-5-

or if addressed to the Company shall only be similarly sent or delivered, addressed to:

Clean Harbors, Inc.
325 Wood Road
P.O. Box 327
Braintree, MA 02184

Attn: Alan S. McKim,
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

with a copy to:

C. Michael Malm, Esq.
Davis, Malm & D'Agostine, P.C.
One Boston Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

or to such other address as the party or person to receive such notice shall hereafter advise the other party hereto in accordance with this provision, and shall be deemed given on the date of the first attempted delivery thereof by hand or by the national overnight courier delivery service as shown in the latter case on the records of such delivery service.

14. Waiver. Any failure by either party to enforce at any time any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be considered a waiver of that party's right thereafter to enforce such terms and conditions. No provision of this Agreement shall be deemed waived unless such waiver is in writing signed by the party making such waiver.

15. Governing Law; Severability. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and cannot be changed or terminated orally, but only by a writing signed by both parties hereto, which such writing specifically references this Agreement. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of provisions of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.

16. Sealed Instrument. This Agreement is intended to take effect as a sealed instrument.

17. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the sole and exclusive agreement between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and supersedes and replaces any prior agreement.

-6-

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.

/s/ DAVID A. ECKERT

David A. Eckert

/s/ ALAN S. MCKIM

By: _____
Chairman and Chief
Executive Officer

-7-

EXHIBIT "A" TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

STOCK OPTION AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made as of the - day of March, 1996 by and between Clean Harbors, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation (the "Company"), and David A. Eckert ("Optionee").

Whereas, Optionee is a valuable and trusted employee of the Company (which for the purposes of this Agreement shall include its subsidiaries), and the Company considers it desirable and in its best interests that Optionee be given an inducement to acquire a future proprietary interest in the Company and an added incentive to advance the interests of the Company by possessing an option to purchase common stock of the Company having a \$.01 par value ("Stock"), in accordance with the Clean Harbors, Inc. Equity Incentive Plan adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company on March 16, 1992 and approved by stockholders of the Company on May 28, 1992 (the "Plan"). The provisions of the Plan are hereby incorporated in and made part of this document by reference.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the foregoing premises, it is agreed by and between the Company and Optionee as follows:

1. Grant of Option. Subject to and upon the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Company hereby grants to Optionee the right, privilege and option to purchase 250,000 shares ("Option Shares") of Stock at the purchase price of \$3.00 per share.

2. Time of Exercise of Option/Vesting. This option may be exercised (shall vest) as to twenty (20%) percent of the total number of Option Shares upon the first anniversary of the date of this grant and as to an additional twenty (20%) percent on each anniversary date thereafter so that this option may be exercised as to one hundred (100%) percent of the total number of Option Shares on and after the fifth anniversary of the date hereof, provided that, during the year before exercise, the Optionee has performed a year of service to the Company (a "year of service" being defined as any consecutive 12 month period during which the employee has completed 1,500 hours of service, and an "hour of service" being defined as each hour for which an employee is paid or entitled to payment for the performance of duties for the employer during the applicable computation period), and ending on the date of the termination of this option as provided in Section 4 below. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Optionee's employment is terminated by the Company "without cause" pursuant to Section 9(d) of his Employment Agreement with the Company of even date herewith (the "Employment Agreement"), then any Option Shares which are scheduled to vest during the one year period following the date of the Company's Notice of Termination, defined in Section 9(e) of the Employment Agreement, shall immediately vest upon the date of such Notice of Termination.

3. Method of Exercise. This option may be exercised by written notice directed to the Stock Option Committee of the Board of Directors (the "Committee") or to its designated

representative at the Company's principal place of business, specifying the number of Option Shares to be purchased and accompanied by a check in payment of the option price for the number of such Shares specified. The Company shall make immediate delivery of such Shares; provided, however, that if any law or regulation requires the Company to take any action with respect to the Shares specified in such notice as a condition to or in connection with the sale or purchase of stock under the Plan before the issuance thereof, then the date of delivery of such Shares shall be extended for the period necessary to take such

action. In no event shall this option be exercised unless there is in effect with respect to the Shares being purchased a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), or unless the Company shall have received a written opinion of counsel for or approved by the Company that the issuance of such Shares is exempt under the Act and any applicable state securities laws. If the Company shall then have in effect arrangements with a brokerage firm for optionees to exercise options without payment, or so called "cash-less" option exercises, and the Optionee shall elect such method of exercise, the Optionee shall comply with the Company's requirements and procedures for such exercise.

4. Termination of Option. Except as herein otherwise stated this option, to the extent not previously exercised, shall terminate upon the first to occur of the following dates:

(a) except as provided in subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d) below, the expiration of three (3) months after the date on which Optionee's employment with the Company is terminated;

(b) the expiration of twelve (12) months after the date on which Optionee's employment with the Company is terminated if such termination is by reason of permanent and total disability. Permanent and total disability is defined as the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months as determined by the Committee or by a duly licensed physician designated by the Company;

(c) the expiration of twelve (12) months after the date of death of Optionee; provided, however, that the person or persons to whom this option is transferred by will or by the laws of descent and distribution may, at any time within such one year period but not later than the date of expiration of this option, exercise the option to the extent Optionee was entitled to do so on the date of termination of employment (whether by death or otherwise). This option or any portion owned by Optionee upon the date of optionee's death not so exercised shall terminate;

(d) the termination of Optionee's employment with the Company, if such termination is for "Cause" as defined in the Employee's Employment Agreement of even date herewith; and

(e) the expiration of ten (10) years from the grant of this option.

-9-

5. Reclassification, Consolidation or Merger. If and to the extent that the number of issued shares of Stock of the Company shall be increased or reduced by change in par value, split up, reclassification, distribution of a dividend payable in stock, or the like, the number of Option Shares subject to this option and the option price per share shall be proportionately adjusted. If the Company is reorganized or consolidated or merged with another corporation, Optionee shall be entitled to receive options covering shares of such reorganized, consolidated, or merged company in the same portion, at an equivalent price, and subject to the same conditions. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the excess of the aggregate fair market value of the shares of stock subject to this option immediately after the reorganization, consolidation, or merger over the aggregate option price of such shares shall be equal to the excess of the aggregate fair market value of all Option Shares subject to this option immediately before such reorganization, consolidation, or merger over the aggregate option price of such Option Shares, and the new option or assumption of the old option shall not give Optionee additional benefits which Optionee did not have under the old option, or deprive Optionee of benefits which Optionee had under the old option.

6. Change of Control. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2 above, to the extent not previously exercised or terminated under the provision of Section 4 above, this option may be exercised with respect to one hundred (100%) percent of the total number of Option Shares remaining hereunder in the event of the occurrence of a Change of Control of the Company. A Change of Control of the Company shall be deemed to have occurred if the Company is a party to any merger, consolidation or sale of assets, or there is a tender offer for the Company's common stock, or a contested election of the Company's directors, and as a result of any such event, either (i) the directors of the Company in office immediately before such event cease to constitute a majority of the Board of Directors of the Company, or of the company succeeding to the Company's business, or (ii) any company, person or entity (including one or more persons and/or entities acting in concert as a group) other than an affiliate of the Company gains "control" (ownership of more than fifty (50%) percent of the outstanding voting stock of the Company) over the Company. The concept of "control" shall be deemed to mean the direct or indirect ownership, beneficially or of record, of voting stock of the Company. An "affiliate" shall be defined as any person or entity which controls more than fifty (50%) percent of the Company or is more than fifty (50%) percent controlled by the Company or by any other person or entity which controls more than fifty (50%) percent of the Company. Upon the exercise of this option prior to its termination and subsequent to a Change of Control, the Optionee shall be entitled to receive the cash, securities or other consideration he would have been entitled to receive had he been entitled to exercise, and had he exercised, this option immediately prior to such Change of Control.

7. Rights Prior to Exercise of Option. This option is nontransferable by Optionee, except in the event of death as provided in subparagraph 4(c) above, and during lifetime is exercisable only by Optionee. Optionee shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to the Option Shares until payment of the option price and delivery to Optionee of such Shares as herein provided.

-10-

8. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and upon their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns.

9. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be construed and governed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed effective as of the day and year first above written.

Clean Harbors, Inc.

/s/ DAVID A. ECKERT

David A. Eckert

/s/ ALAN S. MCKIM

By: _____
Its duly authorized
Chief Executive Officer

-11-

Modification Agreement

AGREEMENT made as of the 4th day of March, 1998 by and between David A. Eckert of 22 Campbell Road, Wayland, Massachusetts 01778 ("Eckert") and CLEAN HARBORS, INC., a Massachusetts corporation with a usual place of business

situated at 1501 Washington Street, Braintree, Massachusetts 02185-0327 (the "Company").

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, Eckert was employed by the Company from March 18, 1996 through January 24, 1998 under an Employment Agreement ("Employment Agreement") dated March 14, 1996, which was terminated on January 24, 1998;

WHEREAS, Eckert and the Company are desirous of executing and delivering a mutually satisfactory agreement with respect to modifications of the severance benefits of Eckert to be provided under his Employment Agreement and the terms and conditions to be satisfied by Eckert in connection therewith;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above premises and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Eckert and the Company hereby mutually agree as follows:

1. Eckert hereby acknowledges his resignation from employment with the Company and each of its subsidiaries with which he held a position effective January 24, 1998 (the "Termination Date"). Eckert also acknowledges his resignation as an officer and director of the Company and each of its subsidiaries for which he served as an officer or director effective as of the Termination Date.

2. Subject to the conditions of this Agreement, the Company shall pay Eckert the following:

(a) The sum of \$121,353.76 Dollars (the "Initial Severance Sum") will be paid to Eckert seven (7) days from the date upon which he executes this Agreement. This amount represents \$225,000.00 (75% of the amount of severance due Eckert under Section 10(b) of his Employment Agreement), less (i) \$25,000.00 severance paid to Eckert on February 13 and February 27, 1998, less (ii) the following employee charges and taxes:

- Social Security Tax	\$	3,465.80
- Medicare Tax	\$	2,900.00
- Federal Income Tax	\$	60,374.19
- Massachusetts Tax	\$	11,906.25

	\$	78,646.24

(b) Subject to Eckert's compliance with the terms hereof and provided that Eckert has not obtained new employment, the Company will pay Eckert a total of seventy-five thousand (\$75,000.00) dollars severance ("Severance Balance") for the period commencing October 25, 1998 through January 24, 1999, payable at the rate of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars per month in accordance with the Company's normal pay policies, less normal payroll deductions, for so long, during such period, as Eckert shall remain unemployed. Any payments of Severance Balance made under this subsection (b) shall be only until Eckert shall obtain new employment (if he has not previously done so) or shall breach any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

(c) The Company will pay the firm of Drake, Beam, Morin, Inc. an amount not to exceed twenty-three thousand (\$23,000.00) dollars for out placement services.

3. The Non-Competition and Non-Solicitation provisions (Section 11) of the Employment Agreement, which are incorporated herein by reference, shall remain in effect through January 24, 2000.

4. Alan McKim shall provide Eckert, upon Eckert's request, with a positive personal reference. Eckert and the Company shall not disparage one another. Eckert and the Company shall keep the terms and conditions of this

Agreement strictly confidential and shall not reveal the same, other than on an as-needed basis to their attorneys, accountants, tax advisers, or as required by government regulation or court order. To the extent that the Company or Eckert intends to disclose the terms of this Agreement, other than to government agencies, the Company or Eckert shall inform the recipients of the information of the need for strict confidentiality and shall obtain appropriate written assurances from them to maintain confidentially of such information.

5. Eckert represents and warrants that he has returned to the Company all property and materials of the Company, including but not limited to, all telephones, computers, confidential or proprietary information, and that he no longer has possession, custody or control of any such property or materials. Eckert acknowledges that during the term of his employment he learned information of a secret or confidential nature which is proprietary to the Company. Eckert represents and warrants that he has never breached or interfered with the intellectual property rights of the Company. Confidential information may include, but is not limited to, trade secrets; secret and confidential information of the Company and of third parties; personal, financial and account information regarding the Company's customers or employees; business, pricing, and marketing plans; leasing information and terms; development and growth plans; contract terms; employee, customer, vendor, supplier, and prospect lists; and all information specifically designated as "Proprietary," or "Confidential." Eckert shall not disclose, use, copy or retain any confidential business information, employee records or trade secrets belonging to the Company, the Company's customers or the Company's suppliers and has returned all copies of any such information to the Company prior to the execution of this Agreement.

-2-

6. With the sole exception of his right to enforce the terms of this Agreement, and his option agreements dated March 18, 1996, as amended, and June 25, 1997, which remain in full force and effect through April 24, 1998, Eckert hereby fully, forever, irrevocably and unconditionally releases, remises and discharges the Company, its subsidiaries, affiliates, current and former officers, directors, stockholders, agents and employees, from any and all claims, charges, complaints, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, rights, debts, sums of money, costs, accounts, reckonings, covenants, contracts, agreements, promises, doings, omissions, damages, executions, obligations, liabilities and expenses (including attorneys' fees and costs), of every kind and nature, which Eckert ever had or now has against the Company, its predecessors, subsidiaries, affiliates, current and former officers, directors, stockholders, agents and employees, including, but not limited to, all claims arising out of his employment. This general release of claims includes, but is not limited to, any and all claims for wrongful discharge, wrongful termination or wrongful dismissal; any and all claims for breach of an express or implied contract, covenant or agreement; any and all claims for unlawful discrimination (including, but not limited to, claims allegedly based on race, sex, sexual preference, religion, creed, age, handicap, national origin, ethnic history, ancestry, veteran status, retaliation, any and all claims arising under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000 et seq., M.G.L. c. 151B, Section 1 et seq., or any other protected classification); any and all claims under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, as amended; and all claims for damages arising out of any such claim. Eckert further acknowledges and affirms that he does not intend to assert causes of action or claims against any other individuals not specifically named herein now or formerly affiliated with the Company.

7. The Company hereby fully, forever, irrevocably and unconditionally releases and discharges Eckert from any and all claims or damages it may have against Eckert through the date hereof, including but not limited to any claims arising out of his employment

8. Eckert represents and warrants that he has not filed any complaints, charges, or claims for relief against the Company, its officers, directors,

stockholders, agents, employees or former employees with any local, state or federal court or administrative agency which currently are outstanding, and that he has no knowledge of, and has not encouraged, such filings by others.

9. Eckert represents and warrants that he has not heretofore assigned or transferred, or purported to assign or transfer, to any person or entity, any claim against the Company or portion thereof or interest therein.

10. In consideration of the promises by the Company contained in this Agreement, Eckert hereby knowingly and voluntarily waives all rights and claims he may have under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, as amended, against the Company, its predecessors, subsidiaries, affiliates, current and former officers, directors, stockholders, agents and employees. In doing so, Eckert acknowledges that:

-3-

- a. This waiver does not apply to any rights he may have that arise after the date of his signature below.
- b. This Agreement provides him with certain benefits of value to him that are in addition to benefits to which he would have been entitled in the absence of this Agreement.
- c. Eckert has been advised by the Company to consult with an attorney regarding this Agreement prior to his signing the Agreement and has had the opportunity to do so.
- d. Eckert has been given the opportunity, if he so desires, to consider this Agreement for twenty-one (21) days before executing it. If Eckert executes this Agreement within less than 21 days of the date of its delivery to him, Eckert acknowledges that such decision was entirely voluntary and that he had the opportunity to consider this Agreement for the entire 21 days.
- e. In signing on the date indicated below, Eckert understands that he has a period of seven (7) days from that date in which he may revoke this Agreement, and that this Agreement will not become effective unless and until the revocation period has expired without his having exercised his right to revoke the Agreement and this waiver.

11. Eckert and the Company shall be responsible for their own attorneys' fees in connection with this Agreement.

12. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties and may not be abandoned, supplemented, changed or modified in any manner, orally or otherwise, except by an instrument in writing of concurrent or subsequent date signed by a duly authorized representative of the parties hereto.

13. Should any provision of this Agreement be declared or be determined by any court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or invalid, the validity of the remaining parts, terms or provisions shall not be affected thereby and said illegal or invalid part, term or provision shall be deemed not to be a part of this Agreement.

14. This Agreement contains and constitutes the entire understanding and agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the settlement of this matter and cancels all previous oral and written negotiations, agreements, commitments, understandings and writings in connection herewith.

-4-

15. The parties affirm that no other promises or agreements of any kind have been made to or with them by any person or entity whatsoever to cause them to sign this Agreement, and that they fully understand the meaning and intent of this Agreement. The parties state and represent that they have had an opportunity to fully discuss and review the terms of this Agreement with their respective attorneys. They further state and represent that they have carefully read this Agreement, understand the contents hereof, freely and voluntarily assent to all of the terms and conditions hereof, and sign the Agreement as a free act.

16. This Agreement has been entered into in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, shall be interpreted in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and shall take effect as a sealed instrument.

/s/ DAVID A. ECKERT

Witness

David A. Eckert

CLEAN HARBORS, INC.

/s/ ALAN S. MCKIM

Witness

By -----
Alan S. McKim, President

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
SUBSIDIARIES

	State of Incorporation -----	Principal Place of Business -----
Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc.	MA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Clean Harbors of Natick, Inc.	MA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Clean Harbors of Braintree, Inc.	MA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Clean Harbors Services, Inc.	MA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Clean Harbors of Baltimore, Inc.	PA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Clean Harbors of Connecticut, Inc.	CT	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Clean Harbors of Kingston Facility Corporation	MA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Murphy's Waste Oil Service, Inc.	MA	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Mr. Frank, Inc.	IL	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Northeast Casualty Risk Retention Group, Inc.	VT	1501 Washington Street Braintree, MA 02185-0327
Spring Grove Resources Recovery, Inc.	DE	4879 Spring Grove Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45232

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statements of Clean Harbors, Inc. on Form S-8 (Files No. 33-22638, No. 33-51452, No. 33-60187 and No. 333-46159) of our report dated February 4, 1998 on our audits of the consolidated financial statements and the financial statement schedule of Clean Harbors, Inc., which report is included in Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P.

Boston, Massachusetts
March 26, 1998

POWER OF ATTORNEY

(Form 10-K)

Know all men by these presents, that the individuals whose signatures appear below constitute and appoint Alan S. McKim and Carl Paschetag, and each of them acting alone, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents with full power of substitution and resubstitution, to sign the Clean Harbors, Inc. Form 10-K Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto, and all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said substitute or substitutes may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Signature - - - - -	Title -----	Date -----
/s/ CHRISTY W. BELL ----- Christy W. Bell	Director	March 19, 1998
/s/ JOHN F. KASLOW ----- John F. Kaslow	Director	March 23, 1998
/s/ DANIEL J. MCCARTHY ----- Daniel J. McCarthy	Director	March 19, 1998
/s/ JOHN T. PRESTON ----- John T. Preston	Director	March 19, 1998
/s/ LORNE R. WAXLAX ----- Lorne R. Waxlax	Director	March 20, 1998

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