CS/HB 569 — Solid Waste Disposal

by Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Committee; and Rep. Poppell (CS/SB 1052 by Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senator Gaetz)

The bill amends section 403.708, F.S., to allow Class I landfills that are designed to utilize an active gas collection system, provide or arrange for beneficial use of the landfill gas collected at such facilities, and obtain a permit modification to their operating permit, to accept yard trash.

A Class I landfill must obtain a minor permit modification to its operating permit which describes the beneficial use being made of the landfill gas and modifies the facility's operation plan before receiving yard trash. The permittee must certify that gas collection and beneficial use will continue after the facility closes. Further, if the landfill is located in a county that owns and operates a compost facility, a waste-to-energy facility, or a biomass facility that sells renewable energy to a public utility and that is authorized to accept yard trash, the DEP must notify, and provide the county the opportunity to comment on, the application for permit modification. This exception does not apply to a county that operates under a constitutional home rule charter. Finally, this exception to the ban on disposing yard trash in a Class I landfill is not intended to have a material impact on current operations at existing waste-to-energy or biomass facilities.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2010.

Vote: Senate 35-1; House 116-0