Jane Dow

Please shut down HERC. The latest research confirms that burning waste is worse for the environment than landfilling. We must transition to waste reduction by separating out our food scraps and composting them; setting up a functional recycling system; and stopping the production of throwaway plastic immediately by passing a state EPR bill that effectively funds alternatives to plastic and puts a heavy tax on plastic producers. In the meantime, we will have to have a hazardous waste site to manage plastic waste since it has toxic chemicals that contaminate the environment. The goal is 50% waste reduction by 2030 and 75% waste reduction by 2042. We can meet these goals with the political will to pass legislation to make it happen. So there is no longer a need for HERC. The need is obvious - reduce plastic production and pollution by passing legislation this coming session. Set up composting and recycling systems for metal, glass, paper and cardboard everywhere in the state and pass a bottle bill. Let's reach this zero waste goal.