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The most important failure of this plan is the failure to include a closure plan for the HERC incinerator. The HERC is already past its planned life expectancy and is a significant polluter ♦ both in terms of its GHG emissions and the air pollution it blows disproportionately on low-income Black communities, leading to disproportionate illness and death in those communities. It is textbook environmental racism, and it must end. The MPCA must plan for the closure of the HERC by 2025.

In addition, much of this plan reeks of contemporary climate denial. It has been well documented that fossil fuel companies are planning on transitioning more heavily to plastics (which is a fossil-fuel product) once renewable energy finally takes over, a drive guided by greed and eco-cidal intent. In order to combat this move ♦ and thereby combat the climate crisis ♦ we must become a zero waste society as fast as possible. Reduction is the most important part of that equation. The fact that this plan proposes just 5% waste reduction over the next 20 years is climate denialism on the level of natural gas as a bridge fuel. The MPCA must commit to 50-75% waste reduction at the minimum.