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Detroit waste authority says it won't renew incinerator lease

Jessica Nunez / The Detroit News

DETROIT -- The city's waste authority has opted not to renew its lease for an incinerator lauded in the 1980s as forward-thinking but now looked at by some as environmentally unsound.

The Greater Detroit Resource Recovery Authority on Saturday sent a letter to Covanta Energy of New Jersey, the operators of the incinerator near Interstate 75 and Interstate 94, informing them the lease would not be renewed.

"The next step is to decide whether or not we will continue to send trash to the incinerator or start using a landfill," deputy mayoral spokesman James Canning said Saturday.