FACT SHEET: RMG EXPANDING EXISTING METAL RECYCLING OPERATION

RMG expanding established presence on Southeast Side

- Having operated on the Southeast Side since 1987, RMG is expanding its operations by building a new recycling facility to serve the region’s demand for recycling end of life vehicles, appliances, and other discarded metal goods.
- For more than 30 years, RMG has conducted metal and electronics recycling, stevedore, and shipping operations in Chicago, and it has owned the 175-acre repurposed brownfield site at 11600 South Burley, for approximately 20 years.
- RMG responsibly operates 14 facilities located in 10 states. RMG decided to invest $80 million in the planned metal recycling facility on its Chicago property because it had the necessary space, proper zoning, electrical infrastructure, and waterway access.
- RMG’s current operations and the new facility do not in any way involve petroleum coke or manganese storage or processing.

Key Features of New Facility

- The new facility along the Calumet River is remote and beyond view from the surrounding neighborhood. The project will enhance an underutilized site in a Planned Manufacturing District.
- The project will create hundreds of union construction jobs and will bring a highly paid skilled workforce, new job opportunities, and additional commerce to the Southeast Side.
- The design of the new facility features a European-style enclosure to better contain noise and dust. This will provide a much tighter and aesthetically attractive shredder housing.
- The facility will be one of the few in the country, and the only in Chicago, that uses a regenerative thermal oxidizer (RTO) and wet scrubber, ensuring a 98 percent minimum destruction efficiency of the RTO for volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from the shredder.
- Other equipment and facility features include a suction hood and high efficiency filters to capture metals and particulate matter, solar panels, high-pressure water cannons, and advanced air monitoring and water treatment systems. A team of inspectors will screen inbound recyclables for any prohibited or non-conforming materials.
- RMG will plant and maintain 200 trees and other landscaping improvements on a multi-acre tract along Avenue O that will be visible from George Washington High School, commercial properties facing Avenue O, and Rowan Park.

Subject to strict city and state regulations

- RMG will be held accountable to the strict environmental compliance conditions contained in the Illinois EPA’s final construction permit.
- Similarly, RMG will be subject to the City of Chicago’s local enforcement authority under stringent new Rules for Large Recycling Facilities.

RMG is a civic contributor

- The company is actively engaged in the community and provides support to the Southeast Side of Chicago Food Pantry, which is located on its property.
- RMG currently recycles approximately 740,000 tons of obsolete metal products that require shredding annually, or about the same quantity as all the garbage collected each year in the City of Chicago. No other recycling business in the area has the capacity or pollution control equipment to handle the massive volume of metal recycling that the region demands. The City would be overwhelmed if required to handle thousands of additional tons of metal goods and appliances discarded in alleys.
- Recycling is a critical element of solid waste management and serves the community by keeping discarded automobiles, appliances, and demolition materials out of landfills. It helps make Chicago a green, sustainable city, while conserving energy and natural resources.