

**New York State  
Environmental Investment Program  
Capital Project Summary**

**Suffolk Industrial Recovery Corporation d/b/a PK Metals**

**Project Background**

Suffolk Industrial Recovery Corporation, d/b/a PK Metals has been in the recycling business since incorporation in 1977. Located in Coram, it recycles ferrous and non-ferrous metals including PVC plastic scrap. Customers include contractors, industrial businesses, municipalities and local governments. Over the past few years, PK has diversified into a full service recycling facility in response to the needs and opportunities for solid waste reduction and resource conservation on Long Island, and in New York City and Westchester County.

In 2004, the company started recycling polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic scrap and found several markets for its products. It became apparent that most of the businesses contacted were discarding their PVC scrap into their rubbish containers for disposal. Many agreed to have PK collect their PVC scrap. PK found that it lacked the capacity to process the increased volume of PVC scrap inventory. In 2005, the company processed approximately 822 tons of PVC scrap in inventory – an increase of 66.9 percent over 2004. The company was limited with its existing equipment to process the additional inventory.

**Project Description**

This capital project allowed the company to significantly enhance and increase its capacity to

process PVC scrap, while adding to the economy of Long Island. The proposed project involved the purchase of a PVC scrap grinder and ancillary equipment. The equipment included a hopper that feeds the PVC scrap to a conveyor equipped with a magnet separator to remove any metallic particles and then feed the material into a granulator. The granulator grinds the PVC scrap into chips and feeds it through an aspirator that serves to remove the fines to satisfy safety and environmental concerns and to make the end product marketable.

**Project Results**

PK's investment resulted in the recovery of an additional 332.4 tons per year of PVC scrap beyond the original capacity. It also allowed segregation of colored process scrap from the higher value white scrap. The project resulted in an increase in annual revenue of \$210,077. It also created an economic benefit for the vinyl fence and siding industries by creating a usable feed stock source that was available at a lower cost than using conventional chemical manufacturing. Continued facility operation will provide jobs and economic benefit. Also, in addition to improving the environment by diverting PVC waste that would have ended up in a landfill, there were improvements to the facility's air quality.

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**Contractor:** Long Island Forum for Technology  
**County:** Suffolk  
**ESD Region:** Long Island  
**ESD Contact:** 518/292-5340

**NYS EIP Investment:** \$216,450  
**Contractor Match:** \$395,944  
**Total:** \$612,394  
**Completion Date:** July 2008