GG191-14
505.1 (New), 505.2 (New), 505.2.1 (New), 505.3 (New), 505 (New)

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Add new text as follows:

SECTION 505
COMMERCIAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

505.1 Food handling establishments. Commercial food handling establishments shall manage food waste in accordance with Sections 505.2 through505.3

505.2 Collection. Food waste shall be separated and collected for beneficial reuse. Pulpers shall not be prohibited for collection of food waste.

505.2.1 Beneficial reuse. The beneficial reuse of food waste shall be through composting or vermiculture, discharge to an anaerobic digester, or fed to livestock.

505.3 Discharge to drainage. Food waste shall be discharged to the sanitary drainage system through a food waste disposer.

Reason: The rate of food waste in the United States is one half pound per person per day. That equates to more than 150,000,000 pounds or 75,000 tons per day of food waste. The vast majority of food waste is currently landfilled, the least preferred method of management according to the US EPA. (http://www.epa.gov/smm/foodrecovery/)

The heirarchy of responsible management of food waste begins with reduction, and follows with beneficial reuse, then industrial uses such as anaerobic digestion with energy generation, and then composting. Landfilling and incineration are considered the least favorable options. The most commonly understood beneficial reuse is composting. However, there are other means equal to or better than composting. One such means is the feeding of food waste to livestock. This is done in many locations throughout the United States. Another method is sending the food waste to an anaerobic digester which can generate a substantial amount of energy, as well as beneficially reusable byproducts used for fertilizer.

Food waste disposers can also potentially convert wastes into resources. The food waste can be turned into energy at the waste water treatment plant in an anaerobic digester. The wastewater treatment facility then generates fertilizer as the final byproduct of the process.

All of these methods of treating food waste are more responsible than adding food waste to a landfill. The diversion of food waste from a landfill is very important with the added restriction on landfills. Furthermore, food waste can be used to generate energy.

Cost Impact: Will increase the cost of construction.

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