§ 1381. State aid. 1. The commissioner may in the name of the state make or contract to make, within the limitation of the appropriations therefor, a state grant for payment to any municipality or to two or more municipalities jointly of not more than fifty per cent of the entire cost of the preparation of detailed plans, including consideration of recycling technology, ultimate land use, and environmental impact, for the construction of new solid waste management facilities or the improvement of existing solid waste management facilities, as determined and approved by the commissioner.

2. Payments authorized pursuant to this title shall be made in two apportionments, as follows:

(a) the first payment, not to exceed fifty per cent of the total grant, shall be payable when acceptable detailed plans are approved by the commissioner, and

(b) the balance of the grant shall be payable when construction contracts are awarded, or when construction begins, whichever occurs first.