

CITY HALL  
114 WEST JACKSON  
SPARTA, IL 62286  
PHONE 618-443-2917  
ROB LINK, MAYOR



COMMISSIONERS  
GARY STEPHENS  
CHARLES KELLEY  
JASON SCHLIMME  
LINDA BOSTON

RECEIVED  
CLERK'S OFFICE

JUL 23 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

July 20, 2010

Illinois Pollution Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 West Randolph Street, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

ORIGINAL

RE: IEPA vs. Link Truck Service, Inc.  
IEPA File #213-10-AC: 1570600013-Randolph County

AC11-2

**Petition For Review:**

I am writing this in regard to the civil penalty for open burning. As Mayor of the City of Sparta and the owner of Link Truck Service located in the city limits of Sparta, I donated an area of my ground for city and county recycle collection. We have trailers on site to collect papers, cardboard, plastic, and other recyclable items which are separated and then taken to State of Illinois, Menard Prison, as a central collection site.

Along with this free service, we installed concrete barrier panels that serve as a burn area for grass, leaves, and tree & bush trimmings which provides the community a controlled burn area; thereby reducing the number of citizens using their personal property as a burn site. Since landfills will not accept "landscape waste" and due to the fact that the city lacks the funds for tub grinders or mulch machines, we felt very strongly that we were providing a much needed service for the public.

It was our intention to burn only when needed under the direction of our city firefighters and to abide by our city ordinances regarding open burning. I realize that some items should never have been placed in the burn pile. That problem was quickly corrected, and the area was cleaned up in a timely manner.

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At this time, the State of Illinois owes the City of Sparta over \$300,000.00 in back taxes; and a water bill of \$50,000.00 that has been accumulating since November, 2009. I would hope that some consideration could be given on this civil penalty.

We have ceased the burn pile in question. On behalf of the City of Sparta, I sincerely apologize for the misunderstanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Link", written over a white background.

Rob Link  
Mayor, City of Sparta  
Owner, Link Truck Service

Cc: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Ave. East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 61794-9276  
ATTN: Division of Legal Counsel