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Sycamore, IL 60178
September 2, 2010

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

IPCB
James Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Case No. PCB2010-103

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to submit two more documents. These are minutes of the DeKalb County Ad Hoc Solid Waste Committee and were downloaded from the DeKalb County website. After reading them, it brings up further questions, I would like answered regarding this siting hearing.

1. At the initial (?) solid waste meeting, it is clear that the Chairman of the Board felt that meetings should be held in towns in the County to get feedback on the landfill expansion.
2. I don't know what changed. I cannot remember reading notices of meetings being held in any town during this entire process for public input.
3. Was undue pressure put on the various entities to keep this expansion quiet?
4. The second document shows that the Mayor of Cortland was in attendance.
5. I do not know when planning began for the new elementary school in Cortland.
6. I feel that the County Board or at least the Town of Cortland had a responsibility to advise the school district of the possible expansion of the landfill before it was built.
7. I don't know if this happened.
8. It should have been up to the school board and the families to decide if they wanted a school built so close to a current landfill and possible expanded landfill.
9. The problem of concern about dangerous gases affecting the school children could have been averted if the school board refused the site given to them and asked for a site north of town.
10. I was told last night that the original plan for that land was to be a park and act as a buffer from the landfill.
11. Why was the school forced into this piece of land after negotiations?
12. I wonder if the developer of near-by approved subdivisions were aware of this possible landfill expansion.
13. I wonder if the realtors knew of the possible landfill expansion and disclosed to people that bought homes in the subdivision nearest to the landfill.
14. Is there some sort of liability for non-disclosure?
15. If public hearings would have been held, at the beginning of this process, all people of the county could have been a part of a project of this magnitude and length.
16. It seems something of this magnitude and possible effect on our county should have become a referendum.
17. The head of DeKalb County Health Department, Bob Drake, was in attendance. I also learned last night that the health department will receive a separate tipping fee. Is this a bribe?

In today's Daily Chronicle the headline reads "FY 2011 figures include a property tax increase." Excerpts from this article are:

"Hanson said the 2011 budget will be larger because of the courthouse expansion and installation of a county-wide, fiber-optic network." "Overall the county budget will be up and it's those two projects that will drive it," Hanson said.

We have been repeatedly told the courthouse expansion would not cost us any money. Why should we be worried about it? The County Board has been irresponsible in believing they would receive the same amount of taxes sales receipts to pay for the courthouse in a downward economy. I suggest they were

not worried about it because they are counting on the increased tipping fees to pay for the courthouse expansion and use whatever is left over to put an addition onto the jail. The jail will suffer.

.Is it the responsibility of the government officials to notify citizens of these types of projects which have an impact on our community both now and for 40 years of future or is it our responsibility to read through minutes (that may or may not have been published) to learn what our governmental officials are up to?? In short, we don't know what we don't know. We have had to dig for every piece of info.

Sincerely,
Barbara Votaw
Concerned Citizen

Attachments: 2

Attachment 1

**Ad Hoc Solid Waste Committee
August 29, 2006
@1:30p.m.**

The DeKalb County Ad Hoc Solid Waste Committee met on Tuesday, August 29, 2006, @ 1:30p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Ruth Anne Tobias called the meeting to order. Members present were Steve Slack, Vince Faivre, Pat Vary and Roger Steimel. Staff present were Ray Bockman, Paul Miller, and Bob Drake. Others present were Dale Hoekstra and Lee Adelman of Waste Management Corporation.

Chairman Tobias welcomed everyone and thanked them for sitting on the committee. She explained that the County has a landfill in DeKalb County that is estimated to last another 9 years. Because of this she would like to start planning early since it takes a long time to create a future expansion or new landfill.

She explained that one of the things that the committee will need to do is hold public hearings in various communities around the county if we decide to expand. She further explained that Waste Management would like to increase the garbage intake at the landfill.

The committee asked, as we go through these meetings and Waste Management attends them, when does it become prohibitive for them to continue to meet with us and then we in turn begin the public hearing process? Mr. Bockman, DeKalb County Administrator, said that once Waste Management files for a permit the 172 process begins and we cannot talk to them any longer. That process does trigger the public hearings then.

Mr. Paul Miller, DeKalb County Planning and Zoning Director, said that prior to the 172 filing, there is nothing that prohibits this committee from sponsoring either informational meetings or public hearings. There is nothing that stops this committee from conducting these public hearings in advance of a formal application, he further stated.

Is there a goal for the County to find a way to dispose of their waste with minimal amount of negative effect on the land in the County? Asked Mr. Steimel.

Ms. Vary said that with a lot of the new technology that is out – there is a possibility of generating energy.

Mr. Faivre said that a goal should be that whatever the form the landfill takes, whether it be a transfer station or an expansion of the current site, this committee should keep it under the control or the relationship of the County.

Mr. Bockman asked that as this goes forward to keep the local business community in mind.

Ms. Vary said that we should also examine the alternatives of not having a landfill here and what the costs would be if the landfill were no longer here.

Mr. Paul Miller said that whatever is done, we should be looking at a long-term solution like 25 years, minimum.

Mr. Bockman said that whatever is done he would like a clarity on what you, the County Board, wants to do. Like, "Is this a goal of this committee to forward a recommendation through the Planning and Zoning Committee, to the County Board, to modify or not modify the agreement with Waste Management?"

Mr. Drake, of the Environmental Division of the Health Department, said that he feels that the County has three options to look at. 1.) to expand because 9 years is a short length of time, 2.) cite a transfer station, or 3.) do nothing.

Mr. Paul Miller said that there is a fourth option, which is build a new landfill.

Ms. Vary said that an increase would mean a larger landfill. When you get into large landfills the costs become much more cost effective.

Chairman Tobias summed up the discussion by stating that she understands that the committee wants to gather information from the public, wants to identify alternatives, wants the County governance relationship and to keep it going, and wants to send a recommendation to modify the solid waste plan to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

Some other ideas that the committee discussed further were:

- 1.) What other places are doing?
- 2.) Are they looking into alternatives?
- 3.) Send a notice to the Press of the meetings and public hearings and be prepared for their questions.
- 4.) Public input is important with this process.
- 5.) Get a list of Waste Management Alternatives and wish list? The committee needs their input because they are the experts in this field.

Mr. Adelman of Waste Management thanked the committee for inviting them to the meeting and he is very happy that the County Board did indeed establish a committee to discuss this matter. He also appreciates the fact of doing business here. He said that they would like to use whatever knowledge they have as a tool to make an informed decision and come up with a long-term strategy for where you'd like to see these things go in the future. We are not here in these first few meetings to push our agenda. We would like to begin a dialogue on what the future holds for the site and the County. What Waste Management is seeing happening in the marketplace, is another issue they would like to discuss. They would like to be a clearinghouse for this committee.

Mr. Adelman said that the tipping fee currently is \$35 a ton. There are some very interesting technologies out there, most of them requiring a tipping fee of around \$80 a ton to be efficient. To allow them to sit down and have a dialogue with this committee means a lot to them. He asked the committee to let him know if the County is open to an expansion, all options are open at this juncture. At the end of the day, you may not choose Waste Management as a continued operator.

Waste Management has about 80% of market concentration in the County currently. They have zero (0) square feet under option at this point. They would prefer to deal with the County than an individual community because the County controls the solid waste plan and landfill. The County has 9 years left at the landfill at 250 to 300 tons a day. Before filing an application they would speak to the County about a Host Agreement.

Mr. Adleman continued by stating that before doing this, at this point, we are here to hear what you have to say or do you want us to put a sunset on it and walk away and then become an exporter? The difficulty of that as an exporter, you don't control your destiny, you don't stabilize your costs for your municipalities. You have every right to go to Rochelle. There is every likelihood that Rochelle will expand their site. To send municipalities' garbage to Rochelle will cost the cities and towns more money.

Mr. Dale Hoekstra, from Waste Management said that as far as the height is concerned with our landfill, part of it is driven by their discussions with the county and municipalities. That is, what is your desire for total capacity? What kind of guarantee would you like to be provided for your county capacity? So if you wanted 20 years of capacity, they would look at the overall design of that facility and coincide with that design. The other driving factor of how high we would go is that they look at the soil balance of the site. That is, how deep are we going? How much soil are we going to be excavating? They look at these factors and more and then come back with an overall design that takes place over a long period of time.

Mr. Adelman said that significant modification would be needed if the County would want to add volume or height to the site now. Is it possible to go up? Asked Ms. Vary. Yes, it is, said Mr. Adelman. The grade on the site is a very modest one, said Mr. Adelman.

Mr. Steimel asked how many more years are left on their agreements with DeKalb and Sycamore? Sycamore is about two years into a five-year agreement with some options with two 2-year extensions, if they wish. DeKalb is more recent, about 18 months ago.

Mr. Paul Miller asked Mr. Adelman if there is a percentage that does work? Mr. Adelman said that there is a caveat that they do want to discuss, that is, prescribe a service area that the County is comfortable with. For example, you would state that the County would accept waste from DeKalb, Kane and Kendall, and restrict the service area.

Mr. Steimel, what would be your preliminary position on how much of an increase in volume, that is, three times, four times? Mr. Adelman said that it is a great question. We

know what we need, that's why we are here. We are willing to enter negotiations on how much you would let us bring in. We can't live with 300 tons. Could we lift the restrictions to the extent that you would allow "x" multiples of that in? We are not talking about 2000 or 1500 hundred tons a day. Mr. Adelman said that they are talking about an amount that would diminish the existing life (if the County does not want an extension) to your site that would propel a discussion on how to proceed. Anything that they do on this property, they are talking about five to seven years for this to come to fruition, whether it is a landfill or transfer station. If it is a transfer station, it would take a little less time.

Is the site desirable for a transfer station? asked Mr. Steimel. Mr. Adelman said yes.

The committee asked Mr. Adelman how much acreage is needed for a transfer station? He said around 8 acres would be fine and that they would certainly be able to put it on the existing footprint and the buffer zone and not require any additional land in order to do it.

Mr. Adelman said that bottom line is what your desires are? What do you see for your county? Mr. Adelman said you may decide that you want no out-of-county waste; or that you want to limit the service to collar counties; or the County wants Waste Management to be limited to "x" amount of tons per day of out-of-county waste, and the County wants Waste Management to guarantee a certain capacity in this landfill or transfer station. Waste Management wants that capacity to eventually be replaced by the growth and depth of DeKalb County when it does eventually grow.

Mr. Hoekstra said that they did the same thing for Kankakee County. Kankakee sat down with Waste Management and said that they would allow Waste Management to take another 500 tons a day - what does that mean? Waste Management said absolutely nothing. From there, in their discussion, they finally said let's go up by 3500 tons a day - they were very aggressive in the Host Agreement, explained Mr. Adelman. Waste Management said look, we will guarantee you a capacity at your landfill or Kankakee garbage for twenty years. As Kankakee County grows the more that volume from Kankakee comes into that landfill it will displace out-of-county waste to a point where you could totally eliminate it.

After a brief discussion, the committee thanked Mr. Adelman and Mr. Hoekstra for discussing this issue with the ad hoc committee.

Mr. Slack said that one thing that he wanted the committee to think about is that when we discuss this we talked about sending this to the Planning and Zoning Committee. He continued by saying that the County now has an Economic Development Committee and he thought that with much of the discussion that the committee had today that this issue could fall under that committee as well. Mr. Slack explained that we also talked about staff time that needed to be put into this because it requires so much technical knowledge of a variety of things that he feels that the County should talk about the possibility of putting money aside for a consulting firm to place the County at the same level as Waste Management.

Mr. Bockman said that last time the County did this we hired a very knowledgeable consultant and we asked Waste Management to pay for it.

Mr. Slack said he is suggesting that no matter what committee it comes out of that we should move forward on that issue.

Mr. Bockman said that there is no requirement that this committee send a recommendation through another committee to send it to the full board.

Mr. Slack said that if the County comes up with a new solid waste plan, once we determine what that is, and we say that we are going to continue to be a repository for solid waste at the County, how do we ensure that the County is indeed the host? Once we determine that we are going to have a solid waste plan and Cortland decides then that they will decide to annex it, we can't back out of the solid waste plan can we? Mr. Bockman said no we can't do that, you can't block a municipal landfill now nor will you ever be able to.

Chairman Tobias then asked the committee what the next step would be? She feels that it would be to get the minutes out and goals, to begin to gather the information that is out there.

Mr. Steimel feels that we have two options. One is expansion of the present site and the other is a transfer station.

Mr. Bockman said that currently we have 300 tons a day and adding another 700 tons would total 1,000 tons a day. The only problem with that is that you have a landfill of only 3 or 4 years then.

Mr. Steimel continued by saying that the other two options are to do nothing and to build another landfill site in DeKalb County. The committee felt that building another site was no longer an option.

After a brief discussion the committee decided that their next meeting would be a breakfast meeting on September 21, 2006 at 8:00a.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Anne Tobias, Chairman

G:Ad Hoc Solid Waste Committee Minutes from 082906.doc

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Attachment 2

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Ad Hoc Solid Waste Committee

October 26, 2006

8:00a.m.

The DeKalb County Ad Hoc Solid Waste Committee met on Thursday, October 26, 2006, @ 8:00a.m. in the Legislative Center's Freedom Room. Chairman Ruth Anne Tobias called the meeting to order. Members present were Steve Slack, Vince Faivre, Pat Vary and Roger Steimel. Staff present were Ray Bockman, Paul Miller, and Bob Drake. Others present were **Mayor of Cortland, Bob Seyller**, Lee Adelman and Dale Hoekstra of Waste Management, Chris Martel of Camp Dresser and McKee, Inc. and Chris Burger of Patrick Engineering, Inc.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Vary, seconded by Mr. Steimel, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes of September 21, 2006.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Ms. Vary, seconded by Mr. Faivre, and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

PRESENTATION BY WASTE MANAGEMENT

Chairman Tobias introduced Mr. Lee Adelman and Mr. Dale Hoekstra of Waste Management to the committee.

Mr. Adelman said that they had purchased a landfill in the 1990's off of Somonauk Road at the junction of I-88. During that period refuse was in place on the property itself and in both lined and unlined areas. The unlined portion of the site is a matter of contention for this committee and the County. The County is desirous of seeing Waste Management come out with a proposal that would attempt to address that unlined area. Because of that Waste Management and the County have had conversations quite a while back about the various options that they might be able to discuss with the County.

The Town of Cortland is north of the landfill. There have been talks with them for many months about the possibility of Cortland's annexation of properties down to the highway that would facilitate the potential annexation of the landfill.

There were a few issues that needed to be addressed with regard to that. Most notably is the Union Ditch, which runs along the south and southeast portion of their site and then goes up towards Cortland. Union Ditch is a farm drainage area and has a very low flow rate. Any activity here has the potential to impact the ditch.

Mr. Adelman said that the reason that they are here is the issue of their landfill.

Out of the 59 landfills in the State of Illinois, basically 2 of them are restricted. Those

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two restricted landfills are the DeKalb landfill and the Prairie View landfill, which is in Will County. They are averaging around 300 tons a day in the DeKalb site. This is a difficult thing for them and they are getting a lot of pressure from their corporate offices to find a way to address this issue. Because of this they are coming to the County to help them address this issue so that they are not forced into a situation to close the facility.

What to do with this site is one of the discussion points that they wanted to talk about today said Mr. Adelman. The restriction is on out-of-county waste, which allows us to bring in up to 10% of out-of-county waste for cross border operations. What he means is that if they have a roll off that occurs near the Kane County border they are allowed to bring into this facility no more than 10%. In all the years of their operations they have never come close to that number. The existing site has approximately 9 years of life left.

One of the proposals that they have placed before the County is the possibility of lifting the restriction on the out-of-county waste to enable them to get corporate to not look at it as an underperforming asset. They need to bring the volumes up to the point where it makes sense to continue operating. The County has been very responsive to Waste Management with forming this committee, of which they are very appreciative. If, in fact, the County opens up the borders to an out-of-county volume, is still to be determined.

Mr. Adelman continued by saying, obviously, the first impact would be the lessening of the life of the site. If we brought in 600 tons of out-of-county refuse and add it to the 300 tons of the County's current waste tonnage, we would cut the life of the site by 2/3rds. In so doing, the 172 process is a long task and three years may not be enough time to get everything done that we need to get done. At some point in the future the discussion on the restriction of out-of-county volume is one of the central issues that we are going to be talking to the County about, said Mr. Adelman.

There are some proposals that they are looking at for DeKalb County, Mr.

Adelman further stated. The first proposal is the lifting of restrictions to allow them to increase the volume. The second proposal is during that 3-year period they would suggest the idea of a transfer site. The costs of putting up these types of buildings now would run between \$7 to \$10 million dollars. If you want to get LEADS Certification, you are pushing the higher end of that spectrum – at \$10 million. Their corporate offices are saying that if they can't get this fraction of potential profit on any project, stop doing it for practice. When they ran the numbers for the transfer station, they fell short. They fell short of the number that they needed to get the capital that it would take to build it. The capital rate of return they would need to make the numbers work under the current circumstances is close to 2,000 tons a day.

Mr. Adelman then showed the committee different maps of current facilities within the Chicagoland area and beyond. He said that the River Bend facility in Dolton, had 6 million tons and now has 1.5 million tons of capacity left. They are now looking at Kankakee, which is closing, there are 3 proposals in Kendall County, Rochelle is looking

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at expanding their facility, and there is a facility in Lee County near Amboy. They are closing Settler's Hill after 26 years there. There will be a need for a new home for the refuse from there totaling 3,000 to 4,000 tons a day.

A transfer station needs to be in close proximity because hauling trucks need to drop off the waste product and be on the road again within a one-hour timeframe. There is one transfer station in Elburn, one in Joliet, one near Wilmington and one in Elgin.

Mr. Steimel asked Mr. Adelman, where does the waste from the Elgin transfer station go? Mr. Hoekstra said that they have two options that they can send it to. They can go north to Pheasant Run, but right now they will send it out to Prairie Hill. Their

northern option in Wisconsin is running out of capacity for their own waste. There is a lot of waste going up north from Illinois, said Mr. Hoekstra. Because of this there are two directions that the waste can go to from Elgin. They have an agreement with Allied who will be bringing them materials into that transfer station. They will transload their portion of the materials (Allied) to their Dixon facility. Waste Management's materials will be run out to their Morris facility (Prairie Hill), said Mr. Hoekstra. The same thing will happen at the Elburn site. The Allied materials will be sent to their Dixon site and Waste Management's materials will be sent to Prairie Hill in Morrison.

Mr. Adelman summarized by stating that our 300 tons daily plus 1,000 tons, totaling 1300 tons does not work for them with a transfer station.

Ms. Vary said that the option that what she is hearing is only going to work for about three years, that is, bring in more volume, then we will fill up our landfill, and now we are not in the right place for a transfer station.

Mr. Hoekstra said that the volume in DeKalb County is just not there. A landfill works better for Waste Management because a landfill takes in other communities' waste.

Mr. Adelman also stated that they have no land underfoot yet. They could look at land south and southeast of their current location. They might be able to assemble 200 acres if they look there, but they can't promise anything. In DeKalb County they can't find affordable land prices right now.

He further stated that the County could lift the landfill restriction and that this would help them.

The committee discussed that the truck traffic would increase too.

Mr. Hoekstra said that they would need about 2,000 tons a day coming into the DeKalb landfill to make it work. Plus the 350 tons that we already take in a day, would total 2,350 tons a day, he further stated.

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The committee discussed how the payment would increase for the citizens because the refuse would have to go west if they close this landfill. The money for the County would be gone too. The trucks that haul the waste will now need to take two hours instead of one hour. A lot of things would change.

The committee thanked Mr. Adelman and Mr. Hoekstra for their presentation.

The committee agreed that the two consultants present today would send their proposals to Chairman Tobias and the committee. The committee will choose a consultant for the project in the very near future. The Chairman will email everyone with the next meeting date.

Moved by Ms. Vary, seconded by Mr. Steimel, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Chairman Ruth Anne Tobias

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