

February 3, 2007

Illinois Pollution Control Board
Clerk's Office
Case PCB 2006-184
100 W. Randolph St.
Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

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CLERK'S OFFICE

FEB 07 2007

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PC# 174

Re: PDC hazardous waste landfill expansion

Dear Pollution Control Board members:

Peoria, IL, is home to myself and my two young children, and I'm writing to express my opposition to the expansion of PDC's hazardous waste landfill outside of Peoria. The EPA admits that all landfills, including hazardous ones and including those with liners, will leak eventually. ^{*see reverse} Therefore, it would be foolhardy and irresponsible to allow additional hazardous waste materials to be landfilled in our backyards and on top of our water supply.

The primary responsibility of public officials is to protect the health and best interests of the public. Private businesses will go out of their way to take care of their interests. It is up to you to ensure that the health of our children, grandchildren, and their children and grandchildren, etc., is not sacrificed for the short-term benefits of private industry. The financial welfare of PDC and other private corporations is not your responsibility. They do just fine taking care of their interests and will find ways to continue to do so without the expansion of the hazardous waste landfill.

Peoria County has done its job for many years by providing a place for the region and other areas of the nation to dispose of their hazardous waste. PDC has profited from this. Area businesses have benefited from this by having an economical option of disposing their toxic waste. When these toxins do leak out of the landfill and create health problems for the people living in this community, it will be impossible to prove that a single company or even several companies are responsible. In the end, none of them will bear the responsibility. It will fall to the County and its citizens to attempt to clean up the mess and to deal with the health ramifications that develop. The hazardous waste landfill is already a tremendous liability to this community. There is no good reason to add to the potential for harm by adding more poisons, toxins, and other hazardous waste to the landfill.

Therefore, for the sake of my children and all future generations, I ask you to uphold the decision of the Peoria County Board denying the expansion of PDC's hazardous waste landfill. Take this opportunity to do the right thing for Peoria's citizens, including those not yet born but who will inherit the consequences of the decision you make.

Sincerely,

Monica Ball

Monica Ball
2202 W. Riviera Dr.
Peoria, IL 61614
309-691-5328

***In the *FEDERAL REGISTER* Feb. 5, 1981, the EPA first stated its opinion that all landfills will eventually leak:**

"There is good theoretical and empirical evidence that the hazardous constituents that are placed in land disposal facilities very likely will migrate from the facility into the broader environment. This may occur several years, even many decades, after placement of the waste in the facility, but data and scientific prediction indicate that, in most cases, even with the application of best available land disposal technology, it will occur eventually." [pg. 11128]

"Manmade permeable materials that might be used for liners or covers (e.g., membrane liners or other materials) are subject to eventual deterioration, and although this might not occur for 10, 20 or more years, it eventually occurs and, when it does, leachate will migrate out of the facility." [pg. 11128]

"Consequently, the regulation of hazardous waste land disposal facilities must proceed from the assumption that migration of hazardous wastes and their constituents and by-products from a land disposal facility will inevitably occur." [pg. 11129]

"Some have argued that liners are devices that provide a perpetual seal against any migration from a waste management unit. EPA has concluded that the more reasonable assumption, based on what is known about the pressures placed on liners over time, is that any liner will begin to leak eventually." [pgs. 32284-32285].

In the *FEDERAL REGISTER* May 26, 1981 (pgs. 28314 through 28328), the EPA argued forcefully that all landfills will eventually leak. Another EPA quote:

"Many organic constituents are stable (degrade very slowly); other hazardous constituents (e.g., toxic metals) never degrade. Yet the existing technology for disposing of hazardous wastes on or in the land cannot confidently isolate these wastes from the environment forever.

"Since disposing of hazardous wastes in or on the land inevitable [inevitably?] results in the release of hazardous constituents to the environment at some time, any land disposal facility creates some risk." [pg. 28315]