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Chris Ozuna-ThorntonSTATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

From: "Chris Ozuna-Thornton" <chris@pdmcrew.com>
To: "Mike Thornton" <thornme@insightbb.com>
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2007 12:20 PM
Subject: Letter to IL Pollution Control Board due April 6, 2007

Dorothy Gunn
IL Pollution Control Board
100 W. Randolph
Suite 11-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601

PCB06-184
PC# 216

Dear IL Pollution Control Board:

It is my understanding that this Board will be making a decision regarding the Appeal of the Peoria County Board's decision against the expansion of the Hazardous Waste Landfill which is operated by Peoria Disposal Company.

I strongly urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to **uphold the decision of the Peoria County Board**, which was decided after much deliberation, education and input from the citizens of the area, as well as information and feedback from Peoria Disposal Company.

I am opposed to PDC continuing to operate, as I believe health of human beings and the environment are in serious danger because of the present condition of the Landfill and any future expansion of the Hazardous Waste Landfill located near Peoria, Illinois.

I hope you will do all you can to protect us, protect our area, and to encourage PDC to find a less invasive and dangerous spot besides Illinois--regardless of the cost or inconvenience. There is no price tag that can compare with the loss of human life, human quality of life, and of our precious wildlife and environment.

Please be courageous.

Sincerely,

F. Christine Ozuna-Thornton
F. Christine Ozuna-Thornton
11700 N. Riverview Rd
Chillicothe, IL 61523
309-579-3376

CC: FBI let attached dated 3/29, +3/30/07 ^{Fax}

3/30/2007

To: Dorothy Gann, IL Pollution Control Bd Page 1 of 3
sent 3/30/07 F. Christine Gann-Thornton

Chris Ozuna-Thornton

From: "Chris Ozuna-Thornton" <hisiam@insightbb.com>
To: "Mike Thornton" <thornme@insightbb.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2007 10:15 PM
Subject: Let to the FBI re Hazardous Waste Landfill-Peoria area

March 29, 2007

The following letter is being faxed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation today's date, March 30, 2007 through the computer of Michael E. Thornton per the instructions of the local Peoria FBI Office, telephone number 309-676-1922 and FAX No. 495-2008).

Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Office
Peoria, Illinois

RE:

- 1) Appeal of Expansion of Hazardous Waste Landfill - Peoria;
- 2) Peoria Disposal Company's Request for NEW PERMIT designating them as "Manufacturer" of the hazardous waste in the Landfill;

Gentlemen:

I am writing an update on my concerns regarding the expansion of the Hazardous Waste Landfill located in Pottstown, in the back yard of Peoria, Illinois. I had communicated my concerns to the FBI and shared those concerns with the Peoria County Board members. They had responsibly voted down the Hazardous Waste Landfill expansion in response to the public outcry and concern for both the public health, and the safety of the human and wildlife population of the area.

The Landfill in question continues to operate--business as usual in spite of the Board's decision. In a mandated meeting conducted at the Peoria Disposal Company's Lab in Pioneer Park in Peoria as part of the various permit processes, the question was asked why Peoria Disposal Company (PDC) continues to push to be in an area in which the Peoria County Board's vote showed they were obviously not welcome. They hemmed and hawed around saying that they wanted to continue saving the jobs involved. When this issue was continually pressed, however, the spokesperson and legal representative for PDC stated that if the Landfill had to find another location, it would take them TWENTY YEARS or more to get another permit issued IF they could get another issued.

When representatives of the opposition asked why they couldn't go where they were not over an aquifer, the spokesperson for the Landfill stated that **most** sites in Illinois are over an aquifer---that's just the way the land is in Illinois--there are alot of underground rivers. If this is true, it seems obvious to me that Illinois is **not a good option for Hazardous Waste Landfills.**

PDC has a four-pronged strategy to continue operating--as the EPA and the State of Illinois *continues to allow* them to operate business as usual **AS THEY DRAG THEIR FEET** during this litigation that could go on indefinitely impacting health and safety in spite of the area's best attempts to stop them through the Peoria County Board's decision. I will address two of their 4-pronged strategies:

1. They will continue with the Appeal of the Board's Decision:

"Opposition to Expansion of Peoria Disposal Company's Hazardous Waste Landfill 1438120003 - - Peoria County
Peoria Disposal Company
ILD000805812
Permit Section Log No. PS06-130
RCRA Permit

3/30/2007

One of PDC's ploys to overturn the Board's decision to reject the expansion of the Landfill in their appeal process was to subpoena several of the opposition and "grill" them--scare tactics used against people for trying to save their environment, their homes and their livelihood. This is particularly repulsive, as many of the opposing citizens do not have the big bucks PDC has to pay high-powered lawyers. They are counting on that. This type of harassment and bullying does not speak well of the American process of law. It is not the first time we have seen PDC employ these kinds of tactics.

2. PDC is applying for an altogether DIFFERENT permit which, if granted, will not need the approval of the Peoria County Board. They are stating that the Supreme Court of Illinois has ruled that Peoria Disposal Company (PDC) is the "**manufacturer**" of the Hazardous Waste materials that come into the Peoria area brought in by hundreds, if not thousands of trucks from up to 15 other states. The Court has come to this ruling apparently because under this permit, PDC will no longer just put the raw waste into the ground as it is at the Landfill. If they receive this new type of permit, they will mix the incoming waste with a sand, gravel, concrete-like mixture which they call a binder, and THEN put the same waste into the ground. The binder cannot take away the poisonous properties of the waste--nor does it stop the ravages of time, weather, tornado, earthquake on the waste which WILL eventually DRAIN into the aquifer, creeks and rivers. Also, the option of bringing in PCB's (polychlorinated biphenyls) has been added to the above permit requests when PDC originally promised not to introduce PCB's into the Landfill because of the implications of long-term endangerment to the environment.

This is a neat trick if PDC can pull it off. Not only can they overturn the voice of the citizens spoken through the voice of the Peoria County Board, the local governing body over the Landfill, but it sounds suspiciously to me as if they have softened the legal right of the FBI or the Government to raise issues over the INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF TOXIC/HAZARDOUS WASTES INTO ILLINOIS FROM SO FAR 15 OTHER STATES! They can just say PDC is the manufacturer, as stated by the Illinois Supreme Court--so it almost seems as if the Trucking Companies and their Contractors don't exist--or if they do, they have very little responsibility in the process. I am not a lawyer, but I'd be interested to see how those legal ramifications play out.

I don't know how the high court came to this decision--even though PDC is adding 50 to 75 percent more filler to each load of hazardous waste. PDC stated dilution is illegal, but this practice seems very similar to dilution except that the materials are dry and not wet. There certainly will be dilution when the elements get to it eventually.

What can the high court and the EPA be thinking of--especially in view of the multitude of underground rivers in Illinois which lead to our Illinois River which adjoins the Mississippi! This problem affects more than just Illinois!

I am appalled that this "business as usual" attitude and fact has continued this long with an extreme number of extensions for over 30 years when most of Peoria was so in the dark that this lucrative, dangerous business was even operating here. How could this happen? How could the EPA allow this to happen? The Peoria Board has seen the dangers and has had the courage and good sense to say enough is too much! We don't owe anything to PDC to continue pushing their extensions through, do we? The EPA doesn't owe them anything, does it? Or DOES IT?

This is a multi-million dollar business we're talking about--possibly and potentially a multi-BILLION dollar business (money made on the backs of our citizens, our beautiful riverways, wildlife, farmlands, and at-risk housing market. Money made despite Peoria being one of the highest cities statistically in the United States for incidences of cancer, multiple sclerosis, early births, the list goes on and on.) The medical experts and doctors were represented with their lists of medical catastrophes occurring in the Peoria area.

I want to see not only these permits, but these **extensions cease and desist!** It is time to have a **STOP WORK INJUNCTION**, until these medical and other environmental issues can be properly investigated--not the other way around!

It's all in the record and I believe it behooves the EPA and parties deciding this life and death issue, to look at the record--in spite of PDC's shotgun approach to diffuse the unity of the opposition and to distract. Their very shrewd and greedy attempt to make the opposition work four times as hard with their four different strategies (to date) which necessitate four times as many letters, meetings, and so on to all of the people who have already gone through this process. These kinds of statistics (medical disease statistics) are the warning signs--and sorry


to say, not EARLY warning signs of serious trouble. I would think insurance companies would consider suing for extreme losses due to high incidences of medical problems here in Peoria. And if they can't prove the Landfill is responsible yet, perhaps it would be in their best interests and ours for them and the health officials to investigate and do research to prove it.

There must be a government agency that would look into that. I know the EPA puts stringent requirements on Caterpillar for emissions--costing them millions of dollars, yet the emissions and toxic dust that the comes from the Landfill is still unchecked. I have not heard of any fines being levied, either. I continue to ask for investigation and monitoring of these so-called "legal permits and regulations".

If the "legal" things are going to kill us either slowly or quickly and destroy our environment and the flourishing wildlife of Illinois--a great natural resource to the United States of America, perhaps it is time to redefine the word, "legal", and the hierarchy that hands it down.

First things first, but there needs to be restitution made to the area and massive cleanup of the present threat, along with the STOP WORK INJUNCTION.

Please hear the voice of the People asking to save what we have before it is too late!


F. Christine Ozuna-Thornton
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