

PC#06-184

PC#237

Copy to Ill. Pollution Control Bd., Clerk John Thotticault

Carol Webb, IPCB: Case 2006-184: Below is a letter I wrote to local Congressman Ray LaHood that I want you to have for the record. Industries come and go, but the source of our water supply will be with us forever worse. Tom Edwards

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CLERK'S OFFICE

JUN 13 2007

Rep. Ray LaHood:

June 11, '07

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Thank you for contacting me about the PDC landfill matter. It is a crucial issue for the present as well as the future of Peoria.

People that move here from other places have spoken to me about the "malaise" they feel hangs over our city, that enervates people. (It was said to me again just last Saturday.)

Yes, it is related to the water we drink, the air we breathe.

As I have pointed out, Peoria is the only municipality in the U.S. that has a toxic waste landfill sitting right over, on top of, the aquifer from which most of its water is pumped, and is immediately upwind of the air its people breathe.

And there are (or were) only 16 such landfills left in the nation. The one in Chicago (actually, Calumet) was closed in 2005. Now we get it all, so to speak, and so far 15 states ship toxic waste here.

There are 54,000 Peorians living within 3 miles, essentially downwind, of PDC's landfill. (And Bradley University is only 2 miles from that landfill as the crow flies.)

If we must have one in Illinois, THERE ARE FAR SUPERIOR, SAFER PLACES, INCLUDING OVER 100,000 ACRES OF STRIPMINED LAND IN PEORIA AND ADJACENT COUNTIES.

We need to go from the bottom of the pollution heap to the top -- and provide a model for the rest of the world. Why not?

**We need to close the PDC landfill -- now -- in the sanest, safest way we can.**

Best to you, Tom Edwards, *River Rescue*  
902 W. Moss Ave.  
Peoria 61606

P.S. Sure, PDC wants to avoid this responsibility and cost. But from this one facility started by Royal Coulter's father, it has expanded into a company with 30 other facilities and one of the state's biggest chemical labs. That's a heady profit.

But even if the government has to help finance closure, it is imperative that it be done. Politicians are leery. But over 7,000 citizens signed and returned our petitions last year.