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ILLINOIS
Ontrol Board

Heart of Illinois Group A

P.O. Box 3593, Peoria, IL 61614

To whom it may concern;

The Heart of Illinois Sierra Club wishes to convey our support for continued operations of Henson Disposal of Bloomington, Illinois. Members of our Executive Committee have visited the work site, met with the owners and reviewed the concerns of neighboring property owners and landfill operators in their petition to the Illinois Pollution Control Board to withdraw Henson Disposal's operating permit. We believe that the Henson Disposal company is appropriately sited, performs its work in a responsible manner and fulfills an environmentally important procedure that should be promoted and expanded in central Illinois.

Clearly landfill operators and their business partners may see a revenue loss with the continued success of Construction and Demoliton operations such as Henson Disposal, but that is the function of the free market. Landfill operations are primarily about public safety, not private industry profit. HOI Sierra Club believes no regulations have been avoided or broken by Henson Disposal. Reduced landfill waste that promotes recycling of construction materials, metals, glass, concrete, plaster, aggregate (bricks, concrete, rock, asphalt), wood, vinyl siding, cardboard, paper, plastics, paint, asphalt shingles and other construction and demolition materials is a valuable service for the environment if done in a responsible manner. Henson Disposal, although a small business with limited resources, is conforming to all siting criteria and provides a valuable service to the region.

Recycling of these materials is a valuable service to our region and is currently being done in a competent manner that in our opinion, safeguards the environment. We urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to deny the complaint and allow continued operation of this recycling company.

Heart of Illinois Group of the Sierra Club has a paid membership list of over 850 households in central Illinois covering an area that includes portions of 14 counties. Our state Chapter has over 26,000 members with the national Sierra Club counting over 1,000,000 active members. It is our confident expectation that increased recycling of all products will be supported by a large majority of Illinois citizens because they understand the value of both job creation and natural resource protection that occurs.

Sincerely,

David Pittman Conservation Chair, Heart of Illinois Group of the Sierra Club

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