

# MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

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SEP 13 2007  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Pollution Control Board

Clerk, Illinois Pollution Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 W. Randolph, Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

September 10, 2007

PC#13

Re PCB 2007-084 North Milam

Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board:

Taking a stand today so that the future is better tomorrow is what we request of you in this matter. I urge the Board to find that the proposed North Milam landfill site in Madison is incompatible with the surrounding area, including Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site and Horseshoe Lake State Park.

Mounding our garbage to the stars is the shameful legacy that will be left to our descendants if this is allowed. It is the wrong thing to do for tomorrow and the wrong thing to do today. Cahokia Mounds is a sight of global significance – we have not even learned all the lessons it has to teach us. Siting a landfill this near a site of cultural and scholarly interest that has spiritual and sacred meaning is wrong. What will the rest of the world say?

Siting a landfill this near a State Park that attracts anglers, bird watchers, hunters, kayakers, campers, and outdoor enthusiasts is equally unwise. Horseshoe Lake's location in the Mississippi River flyway makes it particularly attractive for bird watchers and hunters. Will smells from landfill operations interfere with the outdoor experience? Will emissions from the landfill impact wildlife? Landfills do not belong in wetlands and floodplains. Landfills in wetlands and floodplains pose risks for centuries to the nearby inhabitants, water quality and wildlife.

I encourage you to take the long view and find that dumping garbage in an area that truly deserves protection is entirely incompatible with the area.

Yours truly,

Kathleen Logan Smith  
Executive Director

*It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world and moral courage so rare. -Mark Twain*

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