

IPCB
James Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Case No. PCB2010-103

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
SEP 23 2010
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

PCB 16

September 20, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

As a citizen of DeKalb County, I would like to express my concern about the expansion of Waste Management's Landfill. I would have expressed my concern during pre-sitting application hearings but I was unaware of any meetings I could attend for that purpose. In fact, I did not know this project was "in the works" until the hearing was announced in the Daily Chronicle.

When the notice of the sitting hearing was published in the Daily Chronicle, it was widely viewed as a "done" deal and the hearing was a formality only. The Ad Hoc Committee, The people who were to pass on the recommendation to the entire county board, was not required to attend each day's meeting. If they would have attended the hearing then they would have seen that Waste Management had not met the criteria set forth in the hearing.

Also published in the paper was a statement from the County Board Administrator that no comments would be allowed from DeKalb County residents and from the moment of the publication, the county board members were forbidden to talk with their constituents. This ruling concerned many residents as we had no opportunity to review the application nor have a way to voice our opinion. How can our elected officials effectively govern when they are not allowed to speak to their constituents? This fact troubles me about the hearing.

The County Board Administrator becoming aware of the number of citizens who were angry over the "no contact" order, relented and announced they would allow comments at the meeting but only if the individuals signed up during a certain period but they still could not talk to their representative.

At some point during the sitting hearing, the hearing officer said he would allow, and I accepted his offer and my comments and others comments would become part of the hearing record.

After the end of the hearing, the attorney for Waste Management made a statement, which was published in the Chronicle, that comments made at the hearing would not be part of the record.

The point I am trying to make is that the entire process was handled incorrectly. Citizens were not allowed to talk to anyone connected to making the decision. There was confusion on whether or not citizens could make comments that might influence the decision. Many concerns of residents were not addressed in the sitting application. The hours to sign up to talk coincided with work hours as did the hearing. In today's economy, it is difficult for anyone to take time off of work to sign up or attend the hearings. All of the tactics seemed to be a way to stop any public input.

I ask that this hearing be set aside and a new hearing take place. A project of this magnitude and longevity should have approval from more than the county board members especially since so few residents were aware of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig S. Roman", followed by a long horizontal flourish line extending to the right.

Craig S. Roman
1766 Goldenrod Turn
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
(815) 901-0438