

11/1/2010
Erica Wiseman
350 N. Cardinal St.
Cortland, IL 60112

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Pollution Control Board

Dear Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

PC# 34
PCB 10-103

My name is, Erica Wiseman, & I am a 5 plus year resident of Cortland & DeKalb County, along with my husband, 3 children, & dog. We have thoroughly enjoyed raising our children here in the close-knit community of Cortland. One was even born right here in our home, because our home is such a comfortable & safe haven for us. We have greatly appreciated the warmth shown by people all over the county of DeKalb, which we have experienced nearly everywhere we shop, play, eat, etc. We moved up here from Plainfield, Illinois & the atmosphere down there was nothing like it is up here in the "country."

This spring a neighbor called me to express her concern about the expansion of the Cortland Dump (AKA The Dekalb County Landfill). I was flabbergasted!! I had NO idea what she was talking about, as it was the first time I had ever heard anything about the proposed expansion. Not one town newsletter from our Mayor, Bob Seyller, had ever made any mention of the expansion in all the years we had lived here. We had not received any special notices; nothing at all was said EVER! In fact, one newsletter after word of the "mega dump" started to get around town and the infamous county vote when the expansion was approved, he stated how not much had been going on. REALLY?!?!? Expanding the dump to take in garbage from 18 counties, rather than the 1 county it currently takes in is NOTHING worth mentioning!?!? From talking with people from Cortland & all over DeKalb County the consensus is pretty much the same... we have been SOLD OUT & BETRAYED!!

The expansion of the dump threatens the quality of our air, water, & our lives!! This whole issue hits me extremely hard because I was poisoned in my mother's womb, in 1973. In 2005 I experienced sudden single sided deafness, known as sudden sensorineural hearing loss syndrome along with constant high pitched ringing in both of my ears. I have had ER visits which required me to have steroids administered via IV because I have had periods when the hearing in my "good" ear was almost gone as well. Thank God to date I have not gone completely deaf!! The thought is often in the back of my mind... how would I function as a deaf adult... how would I raise our children... how would I go anywhere... the questions go on & on.

The day after one of my ER visits in 2007 we found FINALLY out what had happened & what had caused my birth defects. For 33 YEARS my mother carried the overwhelming guilt that **SHE** somehow caused my birth defects (even though she was told it was all caused by a "fluke"), and the numerous surgeries & many years of therapy necessary for me to heal and function as a "normal" human being. As I delved deeper & deeper into the matter, what I found was horrifying! For 30 YEARS the water where we lived was contaminated, AND it was known!! In fact, people went to great lengths to cover it all up. During the 30 years as many as 1 MILLION people were poisoned, but so many to this day, still have no idea what happened to them. In fact, the cover up continues!! There are countless people who have come forward speaking of their lifetime of sickness, death, & horrific suffering. There were so many babies being born dead and/or dying shortly after birth during that time, they had to bury them in 15'x15' mass graves, as they could not keep up with the death rate. There have been numerous men with MALE breast cancer that have come forward; so much devastation, loss, & horror. For me personally, the water poisoning has also since been linked to deafness. How did this all happen?? Why?? Well, one can only assume because at the time the cover up seemed like the better route than exposing it all and being truthful... I mean, that is what people do best when money, power, & control are at stake... they do WHATEVER it takes to keep it all, no matter what the expense. The clincher of it all is that this was done at Camp

Lejeune, the U.S. Marine Base in North Carolina. YES, they poisoned their own, the very men & women who had laid down their lives for our country were being poisoned in the barracks, the mess hall, their own living quarters, you-name-it... while we were drinking, swimming, bathing, cooking, washing the dog, cleaning, doing laundry, washing our cars, watering our gardens, mixing baby bottles, and doing anything at all with water, we were being poisoned, EVERY one of us!! I cannot even begin to express the full devastation & economic impact this has wreaked on the lives of the victims, but I can say it has been crippling for so many of us... medical bills in the hundred thousand to millions. There has been so much loss of the quality of life & life itself, for those whose bodies could not withstand the devastation to their health!!

With that said, I am VERY fearful that what happened at Cap Lejeune could very well happen here. Ground water can NOT be controlled, just ask the Camp Lejeune victims!! That doesn't even mention the devastating impact the dump already has on the air quality around it with the rotten egg smell... I shudder to think of the impact should it expand!!

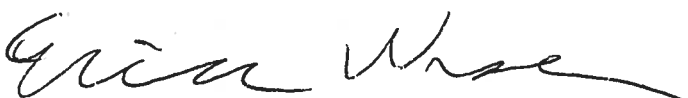
The school that was built 1/4 of a mile from the dump is a joke!! The parents who have been concerned enough to ask questions & make waves for the safety of their children, have been brushed off, so much so that most of them have resorted to pulling their kids out of the school completely because they didn't feel it was worth their child's safety & health. They were told there would be testing, which was FINALLY done shortly before school let out for the summer and the results were not shared until AFTER the kids were out of school. In fact, on the LAST day of school a note arrived in the mail boxes of parents stating that summer school would not be held at Cortland school & was being moved to Sycamore, due to "building testing." They didn't even mention the test results, which were NOT normal & proved a hazard. If there is ALREADY a problem at the school with the dump at its current size, how will it impact the children & the rest of their lives, if the toxic gases increase?!?!? Will they need to permanently seal ALL of the windows shut, as they did on the south side of the school when it was built?? Will the kids need to wear gas masks to school?? Sure there is a "monitor" at the school to ensure the building safety, but it has been reported that the monitor is not hung at the proper level, nor is it producing the tracing paper "receipt" that would constantly show the reading on the monitor. Where is the accountability, where is the proof the children's safety?? The fact that there even needs to be such a monitor in a SCHOOL is beyond my comprehension... I mean if there is a need for a MONITOR, perhaps something else needs to be done... perhaps the decision to build the school in the current location was the result of being sold out AGAIN... perhaps, someone else once again put their wealth, power, & control ahead of the very basic needs of the entire community to have a SAFE place for their children to go to school. Again, I shudder to think of what would happen if the dump were to be any larger.

The whole time this "Mega Dump" has been in the works, it has been kept under wraps. We the people are just supposed to sit back & pay for it all, not ask questions, and not expect any accountability, or at least that is how it certainly appears. We lose our health & they gain THEIR wealth. As it is, our property values have plummeted... I know that is how it is around most of the country, but ours are extremely bad. Our house is listed for \$120,000+ UNDER what we paid for it & what has been put into it since we bought it, which does NOT include our taxes for 5 years, our interest on our mortgage, etc. We are not talking about a \$500,000 house, but a house we paid \$233,000 for in 2005. Subtract the \$120,000 (& I am sure I am forgetting some of our improvements we have made so the loss is even greater!) from \$233,000 & what do you have?? We are NOT in short sale or foreclosure, but our house is listed as though it is one. I am sick at the thought of what will happen to our house value if the expansion takes place. Will we get anything out of our house?? Will we leave here financially devastated and sick from polluted air & water too??

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE help give us a voice... PLEASE stop this expansion!! Thank you!!

Sincerely,

Erica Wiseman



Dear Members of the Board,

My name is Kalley &
I'm nine years old.

I'm writing to ask you
to save my home & town
from the expansion of the
dump. I'm afraid it
may cause air and
water pollution & people
will get very sick.

I also don't want the
dump because it smells
like rotten eggs, &
I'm afraid it'll smell
like that by my
house too. I really
like living by all
my friends, but I
don't want my beautiful
neighborhood to smell
like garbage. I
have two little sisters
& a hard-working mom

I dad who try
very hard to give us
a safe & healthy
place to grow up
in. If the dump
is allowed to grow
bigger this won't be
a very safe place
to live.

Please help to keep
my home & our town
safe! Thank you!

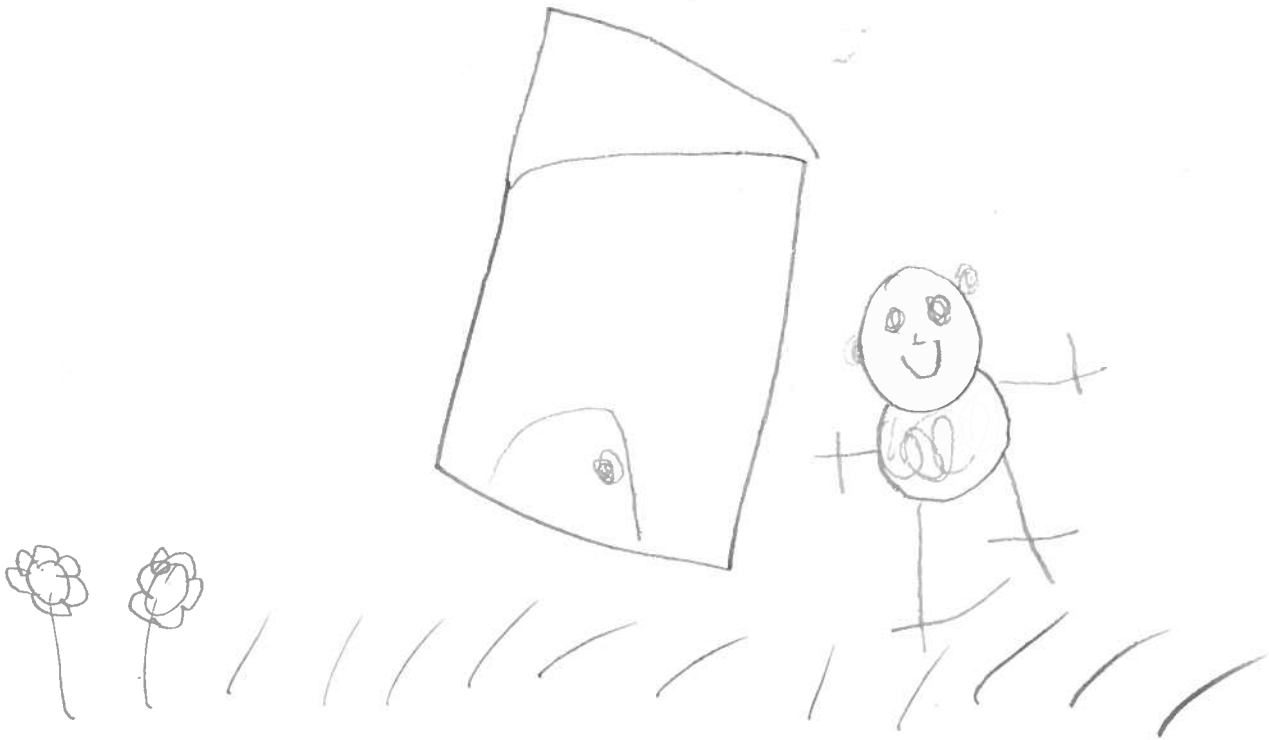
Sincerely,
Railey

PLEASE

SAVE

OUR

TOWN



Abbie - Age 5