

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

\* \* \* \* \*

IN RE: PA WASTE, LLC'S MUNICIPAL WASTE APPLICATION  
FOR A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT THE PROPOSED CAMP HOPE RUN  
LANDFILL IN BOGGS TOWNSHIP, CLEARFIELD COUNTY

\* \* \* \* \*

BEFORE:       MARCUS KOHL, Regional Director  
              MEGAN LEHMAN, Community Relations  
              Coordinator  
              DAN VILLELLO, Local Government Liaison  
              PATRICK BRENNAN, Environmental Program  
              Manager for the Waste Management Program

HEARING:       Monday, July 23, 2018  
              6:33 p.m.

LOCATION:       Florian Banquet Center  
              321 Mill Road  
              Clearfield, PA 16830

Reporter: Lori A. Behe

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SPEAKERS: Jodi Brennan, Mark McCracken, Paul Bruder, Rich Hughes, Kim Bloom, Marven Smith, Albert Adams, Ryan Sayers, Dave Abler, Robert Rovner, Steven Rovner, Delbert Ball, David Wulderk, Kevin Reese, Vanessa Reese, Tim Potts, Lynn Herman, James Leitzinger, Fred Rougeux, Jim Parks, Edith Schrot, J. Rudolph Schrot, Katie Gregoire, Dean Rodkey, Lewis Aughenbaugh, Roger Gallaher, Steve Harmic, John Vargo, Bruce Bliss, Victoria Beck, James Cling, Rick Swatsworth, John Millezell, Joe Kendrick, Jacob Kendrick

ALSO PRESENT FROM DEP: Jared Dressler, Lisa Houser, Jeana Longo, Anne Shapiro

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MR. KOHL: All right.

Good evening. My name is Marcus Kohl. I'm with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, north central regional office director. So we're based in Williamsport, and Clearfield is one of the counties that we have received permitting -.

---

(AUDIENCE CALLING OUT THEY CAN'T HEAR.)

---

MR. KOHL: All right. You know what? I'll come out there.

Is that better?

---

(AUDIENCE RESPONDS YES.)

---

MR. KOHL: All right. Good. Again, my name is Marcus Kohl from the Pennsylvania DEP. I apologize to the folks in the front row that I now have my back to. But we are the DEP north central region. And we are housed out of Williamsport. And we are here tonight to host a public hearing on the PA Waste Camp Hope Landfill.



1 I really appreciate the great turnout.  
2 Our goal is to get as much feedback and information  
3 as we can so we can make an informed decision on  
4 this permit. We are going to be limiting speech to  
5 five minutes, and Megan will go into a lot of those  
6 details.

7 My ask of everyone here - and I've  
8 been to Clearfield a couple times now - is we just  
9 want a nice, professional dialogue. So please don't  
10 interrupt any speakers regardless of what they're  
11 saying. I've been with a lot of you folks before,  
12 and I know that's not a concern. But nonetheless -

13 ---

14 (MICROPHONE FEEDBACK.)

15 ---

16 MR. KOHL: Boy, this is not good.  
17 We'll figure out how to get through that.

18 But nonetheless. we do really want  
19 everyone to be respectful of everyone's opinion  
20 here. We want to hear all sides of the argument and  
21 we want to hear as much as we can, so we do look  
22 forward to hearing from all of you tonight. In the  
23 event that you aren't comfortable speaking, again,  
24 we are accepting written public comments. And for  
25 those of you who have a cold this morning and can't

1 speak written public comments for ten days  
2 afterward. The address is on the handouts on the  
3 front of the page

4 So again, Megan will probably cover  
5 some of this again. But I really appreciate the  
6 great turnout and we look forward to hearing from  
7 all of you. And if anyone has any questions  
8 afterwards, grab one of us DEP folks to get our  
9 information and we'd be happy to have a dialogue  
10 with you that way. So again, thanks. And Megan,  
11 I'll turn it over to you now. I don't know how you  
12 want to do this.

13 MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

14 I'm just going to do a mic check here.

15 ---

16 (MIC CHECK PERFORMED.)

17 ---

18 MS. LEHMAN: All right, everyone.

19 Okay. All right. It was working before you all got  
20 here. I promise it did. We tried it. Okay.

21 So good evening. My name is Megan  
22 Lehman. I am the community relations coordinator  
23 for the Pennsylvania DEP in the north central  
24 regional office which is located in Williamsport.  
25 You can't hear me? All right. How's that? Better?

1 Okay.

2                   So my name is Megan Lehman. I'm the  
3 community relations coordinator for DEP in the north  
4 central regional office in Williamsport. I want to  
5 also thank you for coming tonight. And thank you to  
6 the Lawrence Township Volunteer Fire Company for the  
7 use of their building this evening.

8                   We will now begin the formal public  
9 hearing to obtain public comments regarding PA Waste  
10 LLC's municipal waste application for a permit to  
11 construct the proposed Camp Hope Run Landfill in  
12 Boggs Township, Clearfield County.

13                   DEP staff are here tonight to receive  
14 testimony from the public so that all relevant  
15 comments can be considered in the Department's  
16 review of the permit application for this proposed  
17 project.

18                   I'd like to introduce from DEP's north  
19 central regional office, again, regional director  
20 Marcus Kohl. Dan Villello, our local government  
21 liaison. Patrick Brennan, environmental program  
22 manager for the waste management program.

23                   Also in attendance in the audience  
24 here tonight are Jared Dressler, assistant regional  
25 director. Lisa Houser, facilities manager for the

1 waste management program, and Anne Shapiro and Jeana  
2 Longo, both with the DEP's office of chief counsel  
3 in Williamsport. Okay.

4 Registration to testify tonight is now  
5 closed. In addition to providing oral testimony  
6 here tonight, members of the public may also submit  
7 written testimony no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday,  
8 August 3rd, 2018. Let's see if this works, okay, to  
9 DEP via written, postal mail or email. If you would  
10 like to submit written testimony please pick up one  
11 of the handouts on the front, containing the details  
12 from the sign in - I'm sorry, from the sign-in table  
13 in the back. This is what that looks like. Okay?

14 DEP gives equal consideration to all  
15 public comments regardless whether a comment is  
16 received verbally tonight or in writing prior to the  
17 deadline. Also on the handout is the address of  
18 DEP's north central regional office website, which  
19 contains the application and correspondence between  
20 DEP and the applicant.

21 Please note that our purpose here  
22 tonight is to listen to your comments and gather  
23 input that may be useful during the permit review  
24 process. DEP staff do not directly answer questions  
25 or respond to individual comments during this

1 official proceeding. All formal testimony given  
2 tonight or provided a writing by the deadline will  
3 be addressed in writing by DEP after the close of  
4 the public comment period in what is called the  
5 comment and response document. Okay.

6           The Camp Hope Run Landfill project as  
7 proposed will require a number of DEP permits which  
8 have been submitted to the Department for review. A  
9 waste management permit application has been  
10 submitted for the construction for a 5,000 tons per  
11 day landfill on the permit area of 845 acres.

12           The project also requires a water  
13 quality management permit for the construction of an  
14 industrial wastewater treatment facility and a  
15 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System or  
16 NPDES permit for the discharge of effluent from the  
17 industrial wastewater facility, as well as storm  
18 water in contact with landfill activities. And both  
19 of those would be issued from DEP's clean water  
20 program.

21           An air quality plan approval permit is  
22 required from DEP's air quality program for the  
23 operation of the landfill. Additionally, in Chapter  
24 102, general NPDES permit for storm water discharges  
25 associated with construction activities, and chapter

1 105, water obstruction and encroachment permit, are  
2 both required from the waterways and wetlands  
3 program for the construction associated with a  
4 leachate line and encroachments on waterways and  
5 impacts to wetlands.

6 The waste management permit is the  
7 permit we would like to discuss tonight, although  
8 other relevant comments will be accepted and  
9 forwarded to the appropriate DEP staff as needed.

10 Before we take comment from the public  
11 let's establish a few ground rules. Okay.

12 First, if you could please turn off  
13 your cell phones or put them on vibrate. And if you  
14 need to take a call, please step outside of the  
15 auditorium.

16 Next, I will call on people to speak  
17 in the order in which they signed up. Those who  
18 registered in advance will be given an opportunity  
19 to speak and then as time allows those who  
20 registered onsite may also be given an opportunity  
21 to speak.

22 When your name is called, please  
23 approach the microphone, say your name and give your  
24 comments. Also spell your name, please, for the  
25 court reporter. Please speak loudly and clearly

1 into the microphone so that everyone can hear you.  
2 Okay.

3           Each person will be allowed a maximum  
4 of five minutes to offer testimony. Dan Villello,  
5 on the left of the table, he's going to be keeping  
6 the time and he will hold up warning signs as the  
7 speaker approaches the end of their time. So please  
8 keep an eye on Dan to make sure that you don't go  
9 over. Okay.

10           Please be respectful of everyone  
11 else's opportunity to speak and be heard. Don't  
12 interrupt a speaker by clapping, booing or speaking  
13 out of turn, please. Okay.

14           So thank you all for your cooperation  
15 with these ground rules. And at this point we'll be  
16 ready to begin with our first speaker, and I will  
17 also announce the next few names periodically so  
18 that those who are on deck can prepare. Okay?

19           Our first speaker is Jodi Brennan.  
20 Jodi will be followed by Mark McCracken, Paul Bruder  
21 and Rich Hughes. And as Jodi steps up, please do  
22 your best. We're not sure why we're having the  
23 microphone crackle, but if you need an adjustment,  
24 just let us know. Hopefully, it'll work for you.

25           MS. BRENNAN: All right.

1           Can everybody hear me? Hello, my name  
2 is Jodi Brennan. I'm the director of the Clearfield  
3 County Solid Waste Authority, and that's J-O-D-I,  
4 Brennan, B-R-E-N-N-A-N.

5           When reviewing the applicant's  
6 previous application, the Department in its July  
7 11th, 2008 permit denial letter emphasized the  
8 importance of site suitability and further stated  
9 that DEP interpreted Section 507 of Act 101 as  
10 requiring the Applicant to identify the source and  
11 quantity of the waste expected to be disposed of at  
12 the facility and to identify the current disposal  
13 location of this expected waste.

14           DEP stated the Applicant had not known  
15 that redirecting the waste from existing landfills  
16 to Camp Hope Run Landfill would be more cost  
17 effective. We wholeheartedly agree, however, the  
18 interpretation of this section by the Department has  
19 changed for this new application submittal, while  
20 the regulations have not.

21           To date, the county has not been  
22 provided any legal reasoning for this change, which  
23 we argue is detrimental to the state's waste  
24 management and recycling as set forth in the Waste  
25 Management Regulations. The Department's May 3rd,



1 2018 environmental assessment evaluation states that  
2 the Department conducted a site suitability analysis  
3 and determined that the proposed site is at least as  
4 suitable as other sites, but failed to provide the  
5 reasoning or factors the Department used in their  
6 analysis.

7           The County has made the same written  
8 objections to this application as well within the 60  
9 day required response timeframe regarding excess  
10 capacity, site suitability, and interference with  
11 the county plan. The regulations place the burden  
12 on the applicant to prove non-interference with the  
13 county plan. However, PA Waste made no such attempt  
14 and the Department simply accepted PA Waste's lack  
15 of effort.

16           The application is completely devoid  
17 of any information that would allow the Department  
18 to make any sensible determination that the facility  
19 would not interfere with the county plan and instead  
20 places the burden of proof on the county to show  
21 that the facility will, in fact, interfere with the  
22 county plan. Simply stating that it's not in the  
23 plan, therefore, it's not going to interfere does  
24 not address the valid objections raised by the  
25 county.

1           Section 273.139 of the regulations  
2 requires a detailed response to such written  
3 objections. The Department's May 3rd, 2018  
4 environmental assessment evaluation provides no such  
5 detailed response. There was no thoughtful  
6 consideration of the County's objections provided,  
7 nor any justification for overriding those  
8 objections.

9           The Department itself has documented  
10 and provided testimony that excess landfill capacity  
11 and mode disposal costs work against broader waste  
12 management and reduction of environmental rules by  
13 making disposal financially preferable to waste  
14 minimization, energy recovery, reuse and recycling.

15           The county already has more than  
16 adequate capacity secured for the next ten years.  
17 In addition, the disposal facilities included in the  
18 most recent county plan update will be able to  
19 provide county additional capacity in the  
20 foreseeable future, 30 to 50 plus years out when the  
21 current contracts expire due to their ability to  
22 reasonably expand their facilities.

23           And the same goes for our neighboring  
24 counties of Elk, Blair, Cameron, Centre, Clinton,  
25 Indiana and Jefferson, as we documented in the

1 County's 60 day objection letter from September  
2 2017.

3           The Department should understand the  
4 importance of protecting the waste management and  
5 recycling benefits that were secured through the  
6 County's waste management plan as both the County  
7 and Department expended significant resources  
8 defending this very plan from an appeal filed by  
9 Waste Management.

10           In defense for our current County  
11 waste management plan, the Department's own Larry  
12 Holley, the program manager of the Department's  
13 division of waste minimization and planning, gave  
14 expert witness testimony in 2013, stating that the  
15 Department is required by state law to promote and  
16 emphasize waste reduction and recycling. By issuing  
17 this permit, the department would actually be doing  
18 the opposite, by placing an additional impediment  
19 onto the County's already struggling waste reduction  
20 and recycling efforts.

21           How so? The Department knows that the  
22 County has the obligation and responsibility to  
23 consider all requests for addition into the County  
24 plan. It is a virtual certainty that such a request  
25 will be made as soon as the permit is secured. When

1 the request is made, our local haulers will begin  
2 pressuring to add the Camp Hope Run facility for  
3 their added convenience.

4 We know all too well how much  
5 influence our local haulers will have in affecting  
6 public opinion. The Department itself recognized  
7 this influence in Mr. Holley's expert testimony,  
8 which supports our claims that haulers will indeed  
9 influence public participation.

10 If the County were then to add Camp  
11 Hope Run Landfill to its plan, the private sector  
12 negotiated benefits secured through its plan, which  
13 are used to support the County's waste reduction and  
14 recycling programs would become null and void, as  
15 per the conditions of the negotiated contract  
16 between the County and Advance Disposal.

17 This means the \$34,000 per year of  
18 free drop off recycling services will be terminated,  
19 as will the annual cash donation of \$27,500 used to  
20 support the program such as our legal developing  
21 enforcement and cleanup efforts. This will directly  
22 and without question result in a loss of County  
23 reduction and recycling programs.

24 Mr. Holley's testimony also details  
25 how rural programs are suffering from the value of

1 the two dollar per ton fee collected by the state to  
2 support - programs have diminished. And if things  
3 weren't already bad enough for recycling, the recent  
4 China commodities ban has further diminished the  
5 market value of recyclables.

6 We strongly urge the Department to  
7 reconsider its review of the County plan,  
8 interference and site suitability as clearly it was  
9 not given the proper consideration it is deserved  
10 and as is required by state law. Thank you.

11 MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Mark  
12 McCracken.

13 MR. MCCRACKEN: Okay.

14 Good evening, I'm Mark McCracken,  
15 M-A-R-K, M-C-C-R-A-C-K-E-N. I am going to touch on  
16 three issues that I think are pertinent here. The  
17 first one I think you're going to hear a lot  
18 repeated this evening. And that is concern about  
19 traffic issues and the truck traffic. And then what  
20 the safety concerns will be for people in the  
21 Clearfield, Lawrence Township area and in Boggs  
22 Township heading into the site.

23 This has been a prevalent thing that  
24 we've heard through the years as this project has  
25 been - has been submitted. What I'm asking for and

1 putting on record this evening is that I would like  
2 DEP, as they're considering the permit, to look at  
3 making permit approval contingent dependent upon  
4 having rail - rail access bring the garbage in from  
5 out of the area.

6                   Again, while this won't solve the  
7 concerns of folks that don't want the landfill  
8 coming to the area, a huge issue that you're going  
9 to hear over and over again tonight is the concern  
10 about traffic and the safety of people on the  
11 roadways. We have a very viable rail option here.  
12 There is an abandoned rail line back into the site.  
13 And by making permit approval contingent upon that,  
14 I think that problem could be solved.

15                   Secondly, an issue that I've heard  
16 about from - especially from citizens out around the  
17 landfill is concern about disturbance of the  
18 rattlesnake habitat in that area. There is a letter  
19 dated October 27th, 2005 that was part of the  
20 original permit application from the Pennsylvania  
21 Fish and Boat Commission, confirming that there is a  
22 rattlesnake population in that area. However, they  
23 don't really address any consequential opinions as  
24 to the negative impacts.

25                   What my concern is for the residents

1 that live out there, the rattlesnake population  
2 being disturbed could cause the moving rattlesnakes  
3 to move out onto the residential properties. I  
4 think that the Fish and Boat Commission along with  
5 DEP needs to look and take more consideration on  
6 that issue.

7                   And finally, the harms/benefits  
8 comparison is - is the main test that we all know is  
9 what DEP is looking at and weighing the harms versus  
10 the benefits. What I want to bring to light tonight  
11 is that through the host municipality agreement and  
12 various verbal agreements, PA Waste has made certain  
13 promises that have been taken into account that are  
14 benefits. And DEP has recently issued another  
15 letter saying that the benefits do outweigh the  
16 harms.

17                   I believe that these benefits are  
18 contingent upon PA Waste actually following through  
19 and constructing a landfill. However, if you look  
20 at the facts revealed in a lawsuit filed in  
21 Philadelphia, Kolibrio Louver versus PA Waste and  
22 Robert Roe in a civil lawsuit, it makes very clear  
23 in this lawsuit filing that the PA Waste partnership  
24 is not planning on finishing the construction.

25                   It says on page four the intent of the

1 PA Waste partnership is, and I quote, to acquire the  
2 land and necessary permit for a municipal waste  
3 management facility to sell on the open market.

4 Secondly, on page six, it says facts,  
5 the formation of PA Waste section in the filing. It  
6 says on October 28, 2003, PA Waste was formed as a  
7 manager managed limited liability company to acquire  
8 the land and the necessary permitting for a  
9 municipal waste management facility in Pennsylvania  
10 for sale on the open market.

11 Now, what I'm asking for and putting  
12 on the record that the harms/benefits be  
13 reconsidered, and the fact that it's on record in a  
14 court filing that PA Waste is not planning to build  
15 a landfill, they're planning on putting this on the  
16 open market, the land and the permit. The benefits  
17 should be discounted because they are never going to  
18 be here for the end of the project to see it through  
19 and make sure that the benefits are followed through  
20 on.

21 There are a lot of promises that have  
22 been put on for jobs, for tipping fees, all number  
23 of things that are called benefits. And I believe  
24 they should be discounted.

25 Other than that, that's all I have



1 this evening. I thank DEP for their effort to put  
2 this hearing together. And I'm looking forward to  
3 hearing the rest of the testimony this evening,  
4 thank you.

5 MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

6 Paul Bruder is next. Following Paul  
7 will be Rich Hughes, Merle Hayward and Brent  
8 Cartwright.

9 MR. BRUDER: All right. Good evening.  
10 My name is Paul Bruder. I am Counsel for the  
11 Clearfield County Commissioners. I am here tonight  
12 on behalf of the Commissioners to speak in  
13 opposition to the landfill application. Most of my  
14 comments will be referencing the harms/benefit  
15 analysis - I'll refer to it as the environmental  
16 assessment - which was issued by DEP on May 3rd,  
17 2018.

18 ---  
19 (AUDIENCE CALLS OUT THEY CAN'T HEAR)

20 ---  
21 MR. BRUDER: Okay.

22 My apologies. How's that, better?  
23 No? Okay. I'll lean in a little bit.

24 So the environmental assessment was  
25 issued on May 3rd, 2018. And the Department

1 determined that the benefits clearly outweighed the  
2 harms, the potential harms. So there's a couple of  
3 big issues in there that I want to touch on given  
4 the time limitations. The first one is that the  
5 Department focused on the two dollar per ton host  
6 fee being paid or that would be paid to Boggs  
7 Township per a host municipality agreement.

8           The County and others, as a matter of  
9 fact, believe that that agreement is no longer  
10 valid, and in fact, may never have been valid in the  
11 first place. And there are several reasons for  
12 that. The first is that the host agreement states  
13 that the agreement becomes void and of no further  
14 effect if PA Waste is unable to secure any required  
15 permit or permits.

16           Now, that agreement was executed in  
17 2004. And here we are 14 years later. We've been  
18 through several iterations of this permit  
19 application. It's been denied, it's been appealed,  
20 the appeal has been withdrawn. That agreement has  
21 no end date to it. So by a matter of law and a  
22 matter of public policy, that permit is no longer in  
23 effect because PA Waste hasn't been able to secure  
24 the required permits.

25           Secondly, the agreement states that

1 the agreement will remain in effect until PA Waste  
2 abandons the project. The County believes that that  
3 abandonment occurred on April 14th, 2016, when the  
4 appeal of the previous denial was withdrawn. At  
5 that point, the EHB dismissed the appeal. There had  
6 been no notice from PA Waste that another  
7 application was going to be submitted. So in  
8 effect, at that point, PA Waste had abandoned that  
9 project and that agreement became null and void.

10 Finally, on the host agreement,  
11 Commissioner McCracken brought it up earlier. There  
12 was a previously lawsuit by one of PA Waste's owners  
13 Mr. Kolibrio against PA Waste in Philadelphia County  
14 Court. The host agreement says as Mark said, PA  
15 Waste will build and construct and operate a  
16 landfill.

17 However, as Mr. McCracken stated  
18 earlier, the lawsuit by the two principals of PA  
19 Waste stated that PA Waste going to get a permit for  
20 sale on the open market. And so by virtue of that  
21 fraudulent inducement to Boggs Township, the County  
22 believes that that host agreement was never legally  
23 obtained, validly obtained, and should be declared  
24 null and void. And the Department should not  
25 consider that two dollar per ton host fee as a

1 benefit. Okay.

2 Further comments on the harms/benefit  
3 analysis. There is three statutorily required fees  
4 that would be paid; the growing greener fee, the  
5 environmental stewardship fee and the Act 101 fee.  
6 However, without knowing the source of the waste  
7 that's going to go to this landfill and where that  
8 waste is currently going, it's very speculative to  
9 say that that - that those fees would be a benefit  
10 because if the waste - planning to go to the PA  
11 Waste landfill is already going to another landfill  
12 in Pennsylvania, all they're doing is moving waste  
13 from one landfill to another. And the fees that  
14 would be generated through the Camp Hope Run  
15 Landfill disposal is just, you know, robbing Peter  
16 to pay Paul at this point. It's not an additional  
17 benefit. It's just the same money from a different  
18 landfill. So the County believes that that benefit  
19 should be minimized.

20 The benefits are very speculative.  
21 For example, in Elk Township where the Greentree  
22 Landfill is, Boggs Township is paid a one dollar per  
23 ton host fee. Total waste disposed at Greentree in  
24 2007 was about a million tons. In 2016 it was about  
25 379,000 tons. At a dollar per ton that's over \$6

1 million in host fees lost over nine years. So any  
2 host fees that are speculated by this permit  
3 application, again, are clearly speculative. And  
4 the Department has stated clearly that speculative  
5 benefits shouldn't be - shouldn't be part of the  
6 mix.

7                   Finally, if the landfill proposes to  
8 take 5,000 tons a day for 21 years, again, that's  
9 also a speculative benefit. For instance, if they  
10 only take 2,500 per day for 21 years, after 21 years  
11 they would seek an expansion of the - an extension  
12 of the permit life. So the harms would continue,  
13 but the benefits wouldn't increase. Because it  
14 still would be the same amount of waste. So the  
15 money - the economic benefits would be the same, but  
16 the harms would continue until the landfill is  
17 finally closed.

18                   I have more, but I think Mr. Hughes  
19 has the rest. Thank you.

20                   MS. LEHMAN: Can you hear well in the  
21 back of the room? No? Can you hear us in the back?  
22 Hold your hand up if you can hear us in the back,  
23 please. One person? All right.

24                   MR. HUGHES: Good evening. My name is  
25 Richard Hughes. I am a consulting engineer from

1 Clearfield. I have 37 years of experience, and I  
2 have had training in groundwater hydrology,  
3 hydraulics and geology at both the undergraduate and  
4 graduate levels. And I'm also a local historian.

5 I'm here tonight to talk about the  
6 science of why this dump would be a disaster for the  
7 Clearfield region. Others tonight will talk about  
8 the quality of life issues and other separate issues  
9 that you've already heard a little bit about.

10 Before we start, I'd like to see a  
11 raise of hands tonight of people here who are  
12 against the dump. Could I see a raise of hands?  
13 I'm just getting a profile of the crowd that's here  
14 tonight. And I want to thank everybody for coming.

15 I notice that we have the owner of the  
16 dump sitting right upfront here. These two  
17 gentlemen right in the front row right here, which  
18 was nice. I don't think they were at the last  
19 visit.

20 Weeks ago, DEP issued a harms versus  
21 benefits statement declaring the benefits outweigh  
22 the harms. To make this statement, DEP was either  
23 unaware of all the facts, or did not care. And I  
24 believe they care. PA Waste has represented to DEP  
25 a theory that will remove the nearby unlined BFI

1 Dump from the 1980s and place it in this lined dump.  
2 And in turn, they will treat Camp Hope Run with what  
3 today is acid mine drainage and mix it with the new  
4 PA Waste garbage leachate and they will discharge  
5 this cocktail into Clearfield Creek.

6 This is a quick version of their  
7 concept, but I'm asking DEP not to take this carrot.  
8 The concept sounds great if you do a quick drive-by  
9 of the project. But let me tell you what they  
10 ignored. This dump site has a tectonic fault  
11 running directly through it. This fault will crack,  
12 located clearly on the USGS geological maps, convey  
13 storm water from the surface to the to the Burgoon  
14 Sandstone formation.

15 The Burgoon Sandstone formation is  
16 where all the rural homes like West Decatur,  
17 Wallaceton, Sanborn, Clearfield, Madera,  
18 Parsonville, Glen Richey and dozens of others  
19 receive their water source for drinking.

20 Once this sandstone formation is  
21 damaged, it's irrevocable. DEP knows the fact that  
22 all their lined dumps leak. That's right, folks.  
23 Every dump in Pennsylvania leaks and they allow it  
24 to happen. Okay?

25 There's an acceptable leak rate. But

1 you know what? In this location we can't afford  
2 that. Because underneath this site is a tectonic  
3 fault. That means we are the direct conduit  
4 straight down to that Burgoon Sandstone formation.  
5 And on the way it'll catch the Mercer formation as  
6 well.

7                   These are the aquifers that we all  
8 drink from. Okay? You don't say whoops once you  
9 damage it. It's too late. But you know, this is  
10 getting overlooked so far. And DEP knows this fact,  
11 that all their liners leak. DEP also knows the fact  
12 that all their dumps have carcinogens, lead,  
13 pharmaceuticals and low traces of radioactive  
14 materials in the state's lined dumps.

15                   Sure, those dumps are supposed to have  
16 these nasty materials, just like there are no  
17 illegal drugs in my hometown. That is a fact,  
18 ladies and gentleman. Of all the possible suitable  
19 places in the County they picked a property with a  
20 fatal flaw. The fault is a fatal flaw. It cannot  
21 be overcome. You're throwing good money after bad,  
22 you know, and I don't like to see you do that.

23                   Now, you've already put a lot of money  
24 into this thing and you've come up empty. In 2009,  
25 they had a tremor, an earthquake in this area. I



1 think people remember that. I don't believe that  
2 this fault is active, but all we have to do is  
3 agitate it. You can no longer disregard these  
4 facts. Neither the dump representatives or the  
5 state have produced science to show that this crack  
6 is watertight.

7                   Why waste all the time and energy of  
8 both the dump personnel and the county planning  
9 department and legal counsel if this cannot be  
10 mitigated? I would like this issue brought to the  
11 front right now and resolved, even though your  
12 agency, DEP, or in front of a judge. I guess we'll  
13 need Mr. Robert to attend.

14                   We have credible experts lined up to  
15 speak on this subject and we are not going away.  
16 Once you damage the water aquifer, it's irrevocable.  
17 Other less issues include the drilling of the  
18 underground mine site, which did not occur over the  
19 main heading. This is also an outstanding flaw, as  
20 well as a high water table and the threat to the  
21 Mercer rock formation.

22                   The PA Waste engineering, of course,  
23 talks about the six local homes and their wells.  
24 I'm not talking about the hundreds - I'm talking  
25 about the hundreds of wells just located within

1 miles of there, not just a quarter mile away. This  
2 landfill will be here long after most of you are  
3 here tonight. This is going to go on for a hundred  
4 years. This is going to leak.

5                   We have 52 miles of dead streams in  
6 this county starting during World War I, a hundred  
7 years ago. The Clearfield Creek Water Association  
8 has spent the last 20 years cleaning up the acid  
9 mine drainage on Clearfield Creek and it is working.

10                   I would like to conclude that there is  
11 no benefit from this dump. Our local garbage goes  
12 to Percy, and they can take it for at least the next  
13 20 years. Percy has a new playground, fire house  
14 and theaters, but no kids. Communities do not grow  
15 and flourish next to a dump. Dumps smell like  
16 rotten milk, and they can be smelled for miles  
17 depending on the wind direction. Ask the people  
18 what they think as far as smelling a dump. Think  
19 about on Saturday morning, out at the Wal-Mart at  
20 that time.

21                   Do not take the carrot, DEP, for this  
22 does not solve the leaking into the ground. Let's  
23 end this once and for all. Let's address the fatal  
24 flaw. I was always taught to leave a place better  
25 than I found it. Will this really leave Clearfield

1 County better than we found it? I will leave you  
2 with a mission statement, which is from outside of  
3 the DEP headquarters in Harrisburg. This is my last  
4 statement.

5 This is your mission statement. The  
6 Department of Environmental Resources' mission is to  
7 protect Clearfield's air, land and water from  
8 pollution and to provide for the health and safety  
9 of its citizens through a cleaner environment. We  
10 will work as partners with individuals,  
11 organizations, governments and businesses to prevent  
12 pollution and restore our natural resources. Does  
13 this really do that? Thank you very much.

14 MS. LEHMAN: If I could just give a  
15 couple notes? Again, we are very, very sorry for  
16 the technical issues that we're having. We did set  
17 everything up and test it and it was working. So I  
18 think there's a gremlin visiting us here today. But  
19 when you get up to speak, I think maybe there's less  
20 interference if you don't hold the mic. So if you  
21 could just adjust the mic to a good level?

22 And we'll ask those folks who are  
23 coming up to speak, if you're going to point this  
24 way, try to check with Dan. So that we - we can  
25 keep on time. Okay. So the next speaker declines?

1 Merle declines? No, Brent. Brent declines. Okay.  
2 Merle Hayward. Merle Hayward? Okay. He was ill?  
3 Okay. The next one is Kim Bloom. Kim Bloom? Okay.

4 Following Kim will be Marven Smith,  
5 Albert Adams and Ryan Sayers.

6 MR. KOHL: Kim, we're going to take no  
7 offense if you face that way. It'll be a lot easier  
8 for you.

9 MR. VILLELLO: And Kim, I'll just yell  
10 out when it's a minute. Okay?

11 MS. BLOOM: Sure.

12 MR. VILLELLO: Okay.

13 MS. BLOOM: Good evening, my name is  
14 Kim Bloom. I am director of the Clearfield Chamber  
15 of Commerce. Our mission as the chamber is to  
16 promote and enhance the greater Clearfield business  
17 environment, stimulate our economy and assist in the  
18 creation of sustainable community for our residents  
19 and visitors.

20 Prior to becoming the chamber  
21 director, I was a Commonwealth employee. I was  
22 employed with the Department of Conservation and  
23 Natural Resources for 33 years. I worked closely  
24 with DEP on various DCNR projects. One of my  
25 offices happened to be located in the DEP office in

1 the Meadville area.

2 Their goal tonight is for us to review  
3 the permits and make comments on the permit  
4 application itself and not get emotionally upset at  
5 them because a landfill could be going in our  
6 backyard. That truly is easier said than done.

7 To the best of my ability, I have  
8 reviewed the municipal waste application for the  
9 permit to construct the proposed landfill in Boggs  
10 Township. As it states, they have found 51  
11 deficiencies. The deficiencies that DEP have  
12 identified include an incomplete wetland review and  
13 traffic study, just to name a few.

14 DEP has also not received additional  
15 data indicating the landfill would not be  
16 contaminating the groundwater in our area. The  
17 permit says that approximately 217 acres is proposed  
18 to be used for a lined disposable area with  
19 additional acreage used for support operations for a  
20 total permitted area of 845 acres, and to  
21 potentially operate for 21 years.

22 We must consider what the long term  
23 impacts of that area will be. My youngest  
24 grandchild is five years old. So when he becomes 26  
25 years old he will probably be married and starting a

1 family of his own. How will this landfill impact  
2 his childhood? Will he be able to safely drink the  
3 water?

4 We also need to consider what happens  
5 when the landfill will be at capacity. What happens  
6 next? Does the owner then have to compact all of  
7 that and build a landfill on top of a landfill?  
8 What's the long term plan of a landfill once it's at  
9 capacity? You go through the process of signing the  
10 permit. But what is the proactive strategy as the  
11 dump exists during the 21 years?

12 Does DEP do site visits during the 21  
13 year timeframe? Are you able to find the owner  
14 during the life of the project? How does DEP  
15 monitor this project after the permit is signed?  
16 How is the landfill monitored for proper maintenance  
17 as well as the management of the landfill and the  
18 effective control of odor emanating from the  
19 landfill in such that odors do not constitute a  
20 nuisance or a hazard to health, safety or property?

21 My last question, how many permits  
22 have you denied because of public outcry? My guess  
23 is none. And the public meetings are just a  
24 formality and it's part of the permitting process.  
25 I think DEP is doing their job by following the

1 rules and regulations by upholding their duty as  
2 servants of the Commonwealth, but integrated in  
3 these guidelines need to be the spirit of the law,  
4 which needs to be included in DEP guidelines. You  
5 need to consider all the repercussions of your  
6 decision on granting this permit for all the people  
7 in Clearfield and surrounding areas as well as the  
8 future of our children. Thank you.

9 MS. LEHMAN: Marven Smith, is it?

10 MR. SMITH: Yes. My name is Marven  
11 Smith, M-A-R-V-E-N, S-M-I-T-H. And I'd like to  
12 thank DEP for this opportunity today. And what I  
13 want to thank more than that is everybody that's  
14 here. This is one of the biggest operations I've  
15 seen in a long time, but anyway, -.

16 I hope DEP is listening, but also that  
17 they hear us. There is - they probably received  
18 information from the secretary of DEP, who is named  
19 Patrick McDonald. And he has a new program that is  
20 called about DEP connects. In that, this program  
21 seeks better ways to work together effectively and  
22 carry out DEP's mission. And Richard said a little  
23 bit about this. And it's to protect the air, the  
24 land, the water and provide for the public health  
25 and safety of the whole community. And I say amen

1 to that.

2 I was in Tommy Sankey's office a few  
3 days ago. He is our local representative. And I  
4 understand that he's kind of caught in between and  
5 it's difficult for certain things. But I came out  
6 with an interesting word in the discussion in there.  
7 And the word was, it's complicated. And it's  
8 complicated because the state really would like to  
9 clean up some of these areas that have been  
10 destroyed, first by clear cutting the timber, and  
11 then next in the process of the clay business,  
12 setting different types of lines.

13 And then later on - and we know in  
14 this particular place - that they stripped it, raped  
15 it and ruined the water in two different creeks  
16 there. And so the one thing that's not complicated  
17 is the danger we put our community in with the  
18 traffic and the traffic upgrade that was done and  
19 was accepted by DEP.

20 And as I look at it, to me it's a  
21 sham. They did a traffic study in the three  
22 stoplights at Snappy's, Wal-Mart and the River Road.  
23 They did nothing at the intersection at 879 going  
24 onto 153, which is where I live. Those trucks come  
25 down 879 now with their brakes on, their airbrakes



1 on. What do you think will happen when we have  
2 trucks going every two minutes either in one  
3 direction or another?

4 And there have been more accidents at  
5 that interchange for so long. And just a week ago,  
6 just a week ago, we lost a life at that  
7 intersection. And a month ago we dumped a garbage  
8 truck at that intersection. And nine years ago we  
9 dumped another garbage truck there and it took eight  
10 hours to clean it up.

11 Suppose that we dump one at the River  
12 Road? Do you know what will take place from there  
13 back to Wal-Mart, back to Snappy's, back to the  
14 interstate? How many people are going to get home  
15 that day? There's no place to go. You can't just  
16 go around the block. You can't just go back on the  
17 woodland road, or you can't just go up to the top of  
18 the mountain. And I've been doing traffic studies  
19 for them since this started, what I did in 2002.

20 They say the traffic is less now than  
21 it was then, back in '13 when they did the study, in  
22 2013. And it is my request - it is my request of  
23 DEP to require PennDOT to do a full traffic study in  
24 all the roads that come and intersect, which would  
25 be 153, 89 coming off of 80, and going up 153. And

1 there are so many accidents on that road, I could  
2 talk for a half an hour, but I can't. Thank you  
3 very much.

4 MS. LEHMAN: Albert Adams, is next.  
5 After which will be Ryan Sayers, Dave Abler, Steven  
6 Rovner and Robert Rovner.

7 MR. ADAMS: Evening, folks. I  
8 currently have a company on the Camp Hope Run area.  
9 I've been up there for about a year and a half.  
10 Prior to taking it over, I spent a few days up  
11 there, trying to see what was going on in the  
12 property and on the property. And in any one night  
13 I could count 40 to 50 ATVs going across the  
14 property. They were tearing up the roads, erosion  
15 was all over the place.

16 And since I've taken it over, there's  
17 barely any ATVs. We've limited the traffic that  
18 goes on there. We've tried to keep the property  
19 safe. We set up all kinds of conservation ideas,  
20 planting food blocks to try to bring the animals  
21 back in. There were very few animals when we first  
22 went up on the property. At one point in time there  
23 were hunters out in the middle of the night in  
24 Jeeps, shooting the deer while I was watching.

25 I called the Game Commission. They

1 weren't available. They were too far away. I've  
2 been working with PA Waste for a year and a half.  
3 They've been respectful to me. They treated me and  
4 answered my questions as I needed them. And they've  
5 been supportive of what I've done up there. We've  
6 got control of the property right now. We're not  
7 seeing people coming on the property.

8 I've picked up three truckloads of  
9 garbage; tires, computers, televisions. You name  
10 it, I've picked it up. We've cleaned up that  
11 property. It's under control right now. I've been  
12 all over the property. I've seen two rattlesnakes.  
13 There were nowhere near where the proposed dump is.  
14 They're actually on the far side, down near  
15 Clearfield Creek. That's the only place I've seen  
16 them up there.

17 I also have had a lot of time to spend  
18 up there, as I go up in the evenings to keep the  
19 kids from having parties, doing their different  
20 things that they do. The site that they're actually  
21 proposing this on is not visible by the public.  
22 You're not going to see it from the road. It is  
23 down in a valley on the backside.

24 The trucks - I'm a Clearfield County  
25 resident. I drive that road almost every day. The

1 coal trucks, they drive up and down the road. We  
2 live in a coal mining area. I've been dealing with  
3 them my whole life. I've gotten stuck behind more  
4 coal trucks than I can say.

5 I've seen the active mine drainage in  
6 the streams up there. The strip mines have left it  
7 dead. Those streams are red. They're not just, you  
8 know, brown or sulfur colored. They're actually red  
9 when they run into Clearfield Creek.

10 And a couple of things I've been  
11 working on, and PA Waste is being supportive. The  
12 first one is Hunt of a Lifetime. I'm trying to  
13 sponsor some kids that have terminal illnesses to  
14 get them in, to give them an opportunity to hunt.  
15 This year alone there were eight young kids who had  
16 never shot a deer, who actually got their first  
17 chance at a buck.

18 I've been approached by a search dog  
19 group out of western Pennsylvania that would like to  
20 come in. They want to come in and use their search  
21 dogs, train them in the facility, train them in the  
22 ground and utilize the ground for positive purposes.

23 I'm a redneck here. I understand what  
24 everybody's concerns are. I've been working with  
25 them. They've treated me good. Everyone has to

1 make their own opinion and make their own decisions.  
2 But I think DEP needs to look at what it's going to  
3 do for the ground itself. The acid mine drainage in  
4 the streams, especially with the rain recently, if  
5 you saw it, you would be appalled that there was a  
6 creek there.

7                   It's sad that the strip mining  
8 operations have left the property as it is. The DEP  
9 has a treatment - actually a treatment section on  
10 the Clearfield side of the property that has to be  
11 cleared up and corrected by DEP as part of their  
12 mine reclamation program. That's all I have to say.  
13 Thank you very much for listening.

14                   MS. LEHMAN: And this is Ryan Sayers.

15                   MR. SAYERS: Can everybody hear me?  
16 Good evening, my name is Ryan Sayers. That's R-Y-A-  
17 N, S as in Samuel, A-Y-E-R-S. And I'm an attorney  
18 here in Clearfield. As a disclaimer I am here  
19 personally and not on behalf of any of the  
20 organizations that I serve on the board of, am  
21 solicitor for or am president of.

22                   With that said, so why be here this  
23 evening? What is the purpose of these  
24 administrative public meetings? Where do these  
25 meetings fit into our legal system and represent the

1 democracy form of government? I'd argue there are  
2 twofold reasons for this process. First MS. LEHMAN:  
3 is to give the public the right to point out the  
4 flaws in the application process, and the  
5 environmental concerns that might be neglected or  
6 overlooked by the applicant. Second, it should  
7 serve as a check and balance on the administrative  
8 process.

9 So first, during my first year of law  
10 school all attorneys are taught how to read  
11 statutory regulations. And in particular, look for  
12 certain keywords that describe the action that is to  
13 be performed or prohibited. In the PA Code, Chapter  
14 25, Section 273, dealing with municipal waste  
15 landfills. It says applications shall contain the  
16 following, and proceeds to list a plethora of items  
17 required for the permit.

18 However, as the Department states in  
19 its deficiency report of May 9th for the Camp Hope  
20 Run site, there are approximately 50 of these shalls  
21 that were not adhered to by the applicant. A few of  
22 these that are the most concerning but not limited  
23 to are number six, missing rock and soil cross  
24 sections, number 20, the private water supply on a  
25 nearby property, number 29, steeps and discharge

1 that could not be located on the applicant's map,  
2 the entirety of six, as to bore holes and  
3 underground structure.

4           Based on the prior speakers,  
5 especially that of Mr. Hughes, I would argue in  
6 actuality that some of these deficiencies were  
7 intentional by the applicant because as you heard,  
8 the truth of the ecological and practical situation  
9 at the site would prohibit the trash dump from  
10 existing here.

11           The traffic, soil, strata and water  
12 issues alone should be a major concern for anyone  
13 that takes environmental protection seriously. The  
14 fact that it would not take much for the local water  
15 table as well as Camp Hope Run, Clearfield Creek,  
16 the west branch of Susquehanna and the Chesapeake  
17 Bay watershed could be completely devastated should  
18 be more than sufficient to reject this permit if the  
19 agency is truly interested in the health, safety and  
20 welfare of the population living in such proximity  
21 to this proposed site.

22           Now second, I'm not delusional. I  
23 understand the reality of these administrative  
24 meetings. Our elected legislators and governors  
25 many, many decades ago turned over some of the

1 government's power to administrative agencies and  
2 bureaucrats. In the statutes that established these  
3 powers to the agencies, a check was put in place  
4 which allowed for public input, hence these types of  
5 meetings.

6                   However, unlike the elected  
7 representatives that we get to directly vote for or  
8 against, there is little to no recourse against the  
9 people, like yourselves, that make the decisions in  
10 these administrative agencies, which directly affect  
11 us, the people in this room. Hence, I am aware that  
12 almost all these meetings are purely to adhere to  
13 the statute, and that little that we say will change  
14 what is going to happen.

15                   However, I ask you to prove me and the  
16 public perception wrong. You have a super majority  
17 of the people against this permit, as was  
18 demonstrated by the raise of hands earlier because  
19 of these environmental concerns. Truthfully, it  
20 would only appear that those few people that are for  
21 it are so because they have a financial interest in  
22 it, regardless of the environmental impact.

23                   In closing, you have a very legally  
24 flawed permit application before you that  
25 intentionally or otherwise fails to address to



1 address some major environmental concerns, which  
2 could create a major environmental disaster for this  
3 region. And also, you have a vast majority of  
4 people against this trash dump, something that you  
5 would personally not want in your backyard if such  
6 environmental concerns existed. Thus, upon review,  
7 please deny this permit for the sake of the  
8 Clearfield community. Thank you.

9 MS. LEHMAN: Before I call our next  
10 speaker I just want to remind everyone, we do ask  
11 you not to boo or call out. We appreciate your  
12 supplements to this point as we continue the  
13 hearing. And next up is Dave Abler.

14 MR. ABLER: Good evening, everyone. I  
15 am Dave Abler, D-A-V-E, A, B as in Bravo, L-E-R. I  
16 am a Boggs Township resident. I'm also a professor  
17 of agricultural, environmental and regional  
18 economics and topography of Penn State University  
19 Park, associate department head at Penn State  
20 University Park and a principal and co-owner of a  
21 consulting business called By the Numbers which  
22 specializes in statistics.

23 And so what I would like to do here  
24 this evening is spend my few minutes using the  
25 expertise that I have in economics and in statistics

1 to comment on the environmental assessment analysis.  
2 This is the document that several of the other  
3 speakers have talked about, which was released by  
4 DEP in early May, the one that found that the  
5 benefits exceeded the harms.

6 I'd like to comment, first of all, on  
7 the real estate value portion of this environmental  
8 assessment analysis. I think the presence of most  
9 of us here signify that people don't like dumps. In  
10 fact, people have very strong feelings about dumps.  
11 They don't like the noise, they don't like the truck  
12 traffic, they don't like the potential for land and  
13 water contamination, odors and a variety of other  
14 things.

15 All of those things then are going to  
16 be reflected in the value of the homes and  
17 businesses that we own in this area. The  
18 environmental assessment analysis recognizes that  
19 operation of a landfill is a potential to harm the  
20 real estate values. But it mistakenly focuses on  
21 only three properties; two residential properties,  
22 which are 2,500 and 3,000 feet from the landfill,  
23 and then a hunting camp, Camp Rattlesnake, that is  
24 adjacent to the proposed landfill. Those are the  
25 only three properties that the environmental

1 assessment analysis focused on.

2           They failed to recognize the  
3 possibility that properties of much further distance  
4 than 3,000 feet from the proposed landfill would  
5 have their value reduced by the fact that this  
6 landfill is in our community. Instead, they defer  
7 to speculation, DEP defers to speculation by PA  
8 Waste that because of the nature and location of the  
9 site - I'm just quoting from what they wrote - in  
10 conjunction with our truck areas, the impact by the  
11 landfill on property values would be minimal.

12           This is something that a lot of  
13 economists have looked at. And there have been many  
14 studies of how landfills impact property values.  
15 There was a review, a systematic review of 46 of  
16 these studies, that contained a total of 129  
17 estimates of the impact of landfills on property  
18 values that was published in 2011.

19           These studies have an average  
20 geographical range - in other words, the range from  
21 the location of the landfill to the furthest  
22 property studied of about 6.7 miles. That's a lot  
23 more than 3,000 feet. If you're wondering what is  
24 within 6.7 miles of the proposed landfill, well,  
25 it's virtually all of Clearfield Borough, all of

1 Boggs Township, most of Bighorn and Lawrence  
2 Township south of I-80 and parts of other townships,  
3 such as Bradford, Decatur, Knox, Morris, Pike and  
4 Woodward.

5           So the impact of this landfill, the  
6 negative impact of this landfill on property values  
7 is going to be much wider than the environmental  
8 assessment analysis claims. Let me point out that  
9 these are studies of what has actually happened to  
10 property values in other areas as a result of  
11 landfills, not speculation by anyone at DEP about  
12 what might happen.

13           And I'd also like to address the  
14 employment by landfill, which is one of the claimed  
15 benefits in the environmental assessment analysis.  
16 And so here the environmental analysis references a  
17 statement by PA Waste, again quoting, they  
18 anticipate hiring 20 full-time employees with an  
19 annual payroll of \$712,000. And the applicant also  
20 estimates 15 to 30 seasonal employees due to  
21 construction activities.

22           If you look at the documents put on  
23 the DEP website, most of the labor expenses after  
24 the construction of the landfill that are listed in  
25 PA Waste's proposed landfill budgets are for what

1 they call driver, slash, equipment operators and  
2 scale masters, which are activities that are ripe  
3 for automation to robotics.

4 I can assure you over the 21 life of  
5 this landfill, if it goes through, there won't be  
6 that many people working there for very long, it'll  
7 be robots. And those robots will not be sourced  
8 from Clearfield County. They'll be sourced from  
9 wherever they're manufactured, in China or Japan or  
10 wherever it might be.

11 Also, just to follow up on another  
12 point that was made by some of the other speakers,  
13 and that's with respect to employment and  
14 construction activities during the construction  
15 period, you know, there's no guarantee of course  
16 that the local residents would be hired to these  
17 positions.

18 MR. VILLELLO: Time. Thank you.

19 MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Steven Rovner,  
20 followed by Robert Rovner, Delbert Ball and David  
21 Wulderk.

22 MR. S. ROVNER: Good morning,  
23 everyone. My name is Steven Rovner, R-O, V as in  
24 Victor, N-E-R. I am an attorney and I am an agent  
25 and representative of PA Waste, who is the applicant

1 for this landfill. I know - I've driven around  
2 town. I've seen the signs. I know how people in  
3 this room feel about the landfill. There are a lot  
4 of people who are not here as well that support the  
5 landfill for the reasons I'm going to talk about  
6 now.

7                   And just so you know, all the people -  
8 anyone who wants to look at the information I'm  
9 talking about and get some more details about the  
10 positive aspects of the landfill, there is a website  
11 - can you hear me now? All right.  
12 CampHopeRunLandfill.com. And everything that I'm  
13 talking about here now is in that website. And the  
14 people who have the green pamphlets that did come  
15 today supporting the landfill have those green  
16 pamphlets as well that talk about those things.

17                   Now there are two important aspects of  
18 this landfill. The first is the economic benefit  
19 and the environmental benefits. Now these are  
20 staggering, earth shattering benefits that this  
21 landfill is going to provide to the area.

22                   First of all, many of you have not  
23 been on the land. You don't know what's there. But  
24 the previous owners of this property, 2,000 acres,  
25 strip mined it. They clear-cut the timber and they

1 created a brownfield situation. This is designated,  
2 this property, as a brownfield site. And not only  
3 from this property, but properties on the other side  
4 of the highway.

5           They all run across the property and  
6 create acid mine runoff that go into the creeks.  
7 They go into Camp Hope Run, they go into Sanborn  
8 Run, they go into Morgan Run. And the landfill  
9 project is a state of the art lined landfill that is  
10 being used all over the country now in new modern  
11 landfills that captures this waste.

12           And there's going to be a sewage  
13 treatment plant on the property that's going to  
14 treat the acid runoff in addition to what comes from  
15 the landfill. And when it gets discharged back into  
16 the streams, it's going to be cleaner than it's ever  
17 been probably in the last 40 years. So you're going  
18 to start having clean streams, clean runs.

19           It's going to clean up problems that  
20 are going on in this property that affect everybody  
21 here that nobody wants to really recognize is there.  
22 But if you go onto the property and talk to anybody  
23 that's worked that property, you'll see that there's  
24 a major problem that's visible to your eyes. It's  
25 not under the surface. You don't have to do water

1 tests. You can see it on the surface. And that's  
2 created from the previous owners. So this landfill  
3 project is going to clean that up.

4 In addition, this is going to provide  
5 \$369 million of economic benefit to this area. It's  
6 not just the host agreement with Boggs Township,  
7 where they get two dollars a ton, which would give  
8 them \$54 million in their coffers over 21 years.  
9 Now I come from Bucks County. I come up here for  
10 business, but in Bucks County we have a landfill,  
11 the Tullytown Landfill.

12 And I tell you, go on the websites and  
13 look at Tullytown. Because in Tullytown, they -  
14 they had the same situation. It was a small  
15 municipality. They put a landfill in. In fact,  
16 they expanded it afterwards. They used to pay  
17 taxes. They stopped paying taxes. So not only will  
18 this help the taxes to go down, but in their  
19 situation they get checks every year for the  
20 operational life of that landfill.

21 Now, additionally, there are fees that  
22 are paid. First of all, the property taxes are  
23 going to go down for the residents in the area. The  
24 property taxes are going to go up for the landfill.  
25 And that money goes to all the school districts in



1 the area. So when the property taxes go up, that's  
2 extra money to the county and each of the school  
3 districts where this property sits.

4           Additionally, there are state fees  
5 that are paid. And that's a couple hundred million  
6 dollars to go to the state. But the money is all  
7 designated for purposes to improve public  
8 infrastructure, to protect the farmland, to repair  
9 parks, improve water quality and to make  
10 environmental improvements. That's all to better  
11 everybody's lives here, in addition to the jobs.

12           And the jobs aren't just the full-time  
13 jobs that are going to be offered to people in this  
14 area. Those are jobs that are also part-time jobs  
15 because there has to be construction. And after the  
16 landfill's done there has to be a closing process.

17           So it doesn't just open up, operate  
18 for 21 years and it's done. It's constructed, it's  
19 operated and there's a closing section when the  
20 landfill is covered up, trees and plants are planted  
21 and it's basically like a parkland that people can  
22 hunt on and use. But everything's hidden  
23 underneath. It sounds funny, but if you go online  
24 and look at these things that's the way modern  
25 landfills work and it's really an incredible thing

1 to see.

2 So I know you're skeptical. But I  
3 tell you to go on and look at some of these sites,  
4 because you'll see how it works. And it really is a  
5 benefit to the environment, especially where you're  
6 in a situation with a polluted property before.

7 MS. LEHMAN: Can the audience please  
8 be quiet or we'll extend additional time if he's  
9 interrupted.

10 MR. S. ROVNER: Finally, all of these  
11 people that are coming to the property, that are  
12 working the property, that are driving the property,  
13 they're going to need all the services from the  
14 businesses in the area to fix cars -.

15 MR. VILLELLO: Time.

16 MR. S. ROVNER: Okay. Thank you.

17 MS. LEHMAN: Okay. Just as a  
18 reminder, please do not interrupt a speaker. If you  
19 interrupt them we will give them extra time to make  
20 up for the time that was lost. We ask everyone to  
21 remain civil and polite, please.

22 So the next speaker is Robert Rovner.  
23 And we'll give him an extra 15 seconds to make up  
24 for the time that his associate was cut off.

25 MR. R. ROVNER: Thank you, Megan.

1           It's a privilege and honor to be with  
2 you tonight. And I want you to know that when we  
3 first started this landfill proposal I had dark  
4 hair. But when we first started, we were not  
5 mandated to have this public meeting, but we did  
6 have a public meeting. We sent notices out. And  
7 somebody is shaking their head. Yes, we had a  
8 meeting. I forget the exact location. But the room  
9 was full and we answered all the questions, because  
10 I respect the will of the community.

11           I was a prosecutor with Ed Rendell and  
12 Arlen Specter, so I respected the will of the  
13 community then and I respect the will -. I enjoy  
14 coming around and talking to all of you. There's a  
15 lot of misconceptions.

16           For instance, when someone says you're  
17 going to use robots instead of people, let me tell  
18 you something. I promise you we will not use  
19 robots. We will use people. And I - I'm glad they  
20 mentioned that the other township where there's a  
21 landfill pays a dollar per ton as a host fee. Well,  
22 the people of Boggs Township were wise and they got  
23 us to agree to give two dollars a ton, twice as  
24 much.

25           That means that Boggs Township,

1 they'll get \$54 million in revenue for that - fro  
2 that township. And what does that mean? That means  
3 they'll have ball fields, they'll have ambulances,  
4 they'll have different things that they don't have  
5 now. And they won't have to pay taxes. And like in  
6 Tullytown, Tullytown they got about \$4,500 a  
7 residence. And today's landfill is not like the  
8 landfill that they had 45 years ago.

9           It's almost impossible - believe me, I  
10 know. I've been working on it for 15 years now. To  
11 get the landfill to be approved by the state. Years  
12 ago, 45 years ago, there were landfills, there were  
13 no liners, it was dangerous and it was all the  
14 things that you're worried about. It smelled, it  
15 was terrible. And now I do tell you to get this  
16 green pamphlet because - I won't go into the  
17 details. But it talks about many environmental  
18 protections.

19           Now some of you brought out that  
20 there's some deficiencies. That shows that the DEP  
21 is doing their job. Because we don't get the  
22 landfill unless - when they say there's  
23 deficiencies, they check the application. And we  
24 have to correct that. We have spent millions of  
25 dollars on engineers and other ways to get rid of

1 those deficiencies. And that's the reason that they  
2 said the benefits outweigh the harms.

3 Believe me, DEP has your benefit at  
4 stake. Because as I say, it's almost impossible to  
5 get a landfill in Pennsylvania now. So this is for  
6 the future. And I could go on and on. And as  
7 Steven said - and Steven is my son. I'm proud of  
8 him. He's the father of my grandchildren. He made  
9 a website up, CampHopeRunLandfill.com. Go there.

10 We have some of these pamphlets that  
11 talk about the \$369 million that will benefit this  
12 community. And because - and then it's ripple  
13 effects. Because as Steven started to say, people  
14 who use that landfill will come here to eat. Like  
15 we like some of the restaurants here. But the  
16 community will benefit.

17 And we thank you for coming. This is  
18 truly democracy in action. I think the public  
19 officials are interested in getting jobs, getting  
20 tax revenue, and we will take whatever you say. And  
21 you can write to us, you can call us. Someone said  
22 that I may not have been there at the last meeting.  
23 I was at all the meetings, including, as I said, one  
24 meeting that was not mandatory that we asked for.  
25 WE wanted to get everyone's input.

1                   So I could go on and on. But rather  
2 than do that I want to thank AJ for checking the  
3 land and doing the charitable work that he does. I  
4 hope you will read this and make -. Down in Bucks  
5 County they say it's a no brainer, especially the  
6 people in Tullytown. Originally they weren't, but  
7 now they're all for the landfill because it meant no  
8 taxes for them and it benefited the community.

9                   God bless all of you and adios and  
10 thank you.

11                   MS. LEHMAN: All right.

12                   Next is Delbert Ball. Delbert will be  
13 followed by David Wulderk, Kevin Reese and Vanessa  
14 Reese.

15                   MR. BALL: My name is Delbert Ball,  
16 D-E-L-B-E-R-T, B-A-L-L. And I've been a garbage man  
17 since 1972. I've been in and out of landfills ever  
18 since, lined and unlined. You know, when I was a  
19 little kid, I thought there was a boogeyman in my  
20 closet. And I'd have my parents put the light on.  
21 For a while then, that was okay.

22                   And that's what you people remind me  
23 of. You know, it's like you've got 101 reasons,  
24 it's a landfill, it's coming and it's bad. But let  
25 me turn the lights on for you. I've been in the

1 landfills. You know, and DEP is behind this.  
2 They're educated people, they're not just some  
3 dumbbells out at the thing. They know what they're  
4 doing.

5           The legislators put the laws into  
6 effect, that are in the effect, to set in the  
7 landfill. And they enforce them, and your cops and  
8 weigh boys and all them, they come and they do the  
9 traffic control. So there's nothing that's not  
10 governed. You know, what's everybody worried about?  
11 You know, everything is doom and gloom. And I've  
12 seen this ad that said blinded to progress. And  
13 it's about the traffic.

14           Well, when the ethanol plant was put  
15 in I heard nothing about no traffic. That went in,  
16 and all the permits that they needed, that went in.  
17 And it was a whole list done like that. And then,  
18 okay, what else do I got? Wal-Mart, the  
19 distribution center, well, that went in. Nothing  
20 about the traffic.

21           And all these, they was all with open  
22 arms. You had them come in with packs and  
23 everything else. But if you mention landfill,  
24 everybody is oh, oh. Well, I tell you what, your  
25 garbage goes somewhere. And for 30 years I've been

1 running them mountains, taking it up there. And I  
2 get out over Penfield Mountain.

3           And into Penfield we go through there  
4 and there's garbage trucks, there's tractor  
5 trailers, there's tri-axles hauling stone. There is  
6 all kinds of traffic coming from up Warren way. So  
7 if Penfield can handle that traffic, Clearfield has  
8 no problem with it. Penfield's roads aren't no  
9 super highways. And coming up there, I'm lucky if  
10 I've seen three wrecks with all the trucks.

11           If you want to look at traffic, you go  
12 to Penfield where your garbage is going, and has  
13 been going. And your garbage folks, I mean, I pick  
14 up garbage. Nobody smells like a rose. I don't see  
15 a stinking pile and not pick it up. No, you've got  
16 to put it on the truck. When your truck stops, you  
17 go get it. But we got it from all you people. I  
18 started in the morning clean and dry.

19           I know a lot of times I'll be driving  
20 up there and they're hauling that sludge, whether  
21 it's full or empty. Yeah, I wish I wasn't behind it  
22 either. But some things are a necessary part of  
23 life. And a landfill is one of those necessary  
24 things until they can come up with something better.  
25 Okay?



1           And the same with the sludge, it's got  
2 to go somewhere, it's got to go somewhere.  
3 Everything's got to go somewhere. And trucks are by  
4 the means that things is transported. Well, in case  
5 you haven't figured it out, I'm in favor of the  
6 landfill. All right. Thank you.

7           MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

8           Next up is David Wulderk.

9           MR. WULDERK: My name is David Wulderk  
10 and it's W-U-L-D-E-R-K. I have edited my comments  
11 for the sake of time. Our local economy here in  
12 Clearfield County has been an uphill battle for 75  
13 years to secure jobs. And that situation will  
14 continue with or without this proposed landfill.

15           The promise of jobs by those who  
16 support the Boggs Township Landfill is indeed hollow  
17 to the point of being a cruel deception. The  
18 landfill will offer, in fact, only a tiny handful of  
19 local jobs, and huge profits for landowners and out  
20 of state garbage interests, and I stress out of  
21 state, where this stuff will be hauled from for the  
22 most part.

23           If these landfills secure so many  
24 jobs, then other areas unfortunately would probably  
25 scuttle their environmental concerns and invite them

1 into their locales. If landfills are so safe in the  
2 long term and such magnificent job creators, then  
3 areas all over Pennsylvania and all over the United  
4 States would be hotly competing to have them. And  
5 that just isn't the case.

6           Where was a landfill ever welcome  
7 without out of state trash in a small area  
8 especially on the premise to improve the local  
9 economy? Do landfill supporters offer an ironclad  
10 obligation to guarantee that their dumps will not  
11 degrade what good water we have left? I don't  
12 believe so. Why make an already bad situation  
13 worse? As Representative Bud George often used to  
14 say, if you lose water you lose everything. His raw  
15 courage in opposing these landfills was a stellar  
16 example of truth and honesty in legislation and in  
17 governance.

18           The types of waste put into this  
19 landfill could fluctuate day by day. One day the  
20 waste may contain lead. One day it may contain  
21 medical waste, et cetera. No water treatment can  
22 keep up with this sudden change of intake and  
23 properly treat the byproducts on a daily basis.

24           Liners leak. Irreparable damage will  
25 be done to the water table long before those who

1 monitor the situation are aware of the damage done.  
2 And I cite Richard Hughes, who has very good  
3 scientific studies on that. What site landowners or  
4 anyone else who supports this landfill, would want  
5 to buy a home along Park Avenue in Clearfield  
6 Borough or anywhere near Pennsylvania Route 153 and  
7 listen and watch and smell the endless streams of  
8 huge garbage as they roar by.

9           The landfill they support would make  
10 these homes a real buyer's bargain. God help those  
11 who live anywhere near the route from Interstate 80  
12 to the landfill. For one to place such a horrific  
13 burden on others and then turn their backs on them  
14 afterwards as a downside problem is a sin indeed.  
15 It violates the Golden Rule and the accepted rules  
16 of decency.

17           If waste, if it is contracted to be  
18 hauled from a southern direction, it may well be  
19 routed by Route 453 and 153 as a shortcut to connect  
20 I-99 and I-80. And I understand that weight limits  
21 on the roads, I've heard anyway, have been lifted.  
22 The steep grade on Tyrone Mountain may well be a  
23 number of fatal traffic accidents waiting to happen.  
24 I know, I'm from that area.

25           The horrendous truck traffic on Route

1 153 has the potential to delay ambulances on the way  
2 to Penn Highlands Hospital in Clearfield. The life  
3 of a cardiac arrest victim will not wait for a line  
4 of trucks to slow down and turn into a landfill.

5           If owners of this proposed landfill  
6 someday sell the place, then what guarantees can the  
7 new owners offer to guard against traffic hazards  
8 and water pollution? Is this landfill being  
9 proposed simply to be installed and then wantonly  
10 sold to irresponsible new owners at some point in  
11 time?

12           The installation of this proposed  
13 landfill will harm the quality of Clearfield County  
14 and will do nothing to enhance its economy. It will  
15 leave irreparable environmental damage and a  
16 dangerous possible risk. And the long term harm  
17 will outweigh any of the short term profits.

18           The Pennsylvania Department of  
19 Environmental Protection needs to live up to its  
20 good namesake title and protect the Clearfield  
21 County's overall environmental by flatly rejecting  
22 this all to great risk with its awful day of  
23 environmental reckoning. And you already heard  
24 their mission statement from Mr. Hughes.

25           I've taught a lot of history, local

1 history, different ones. And I also taught ancient  
2 history. In Ancient Athens in Greece, young men  
3 swore a patriotic oath of allegiance to their  
4 beloved city state upon becoming a citizen at the  
5 age of 18. They ended their oath by swearing to  
6 leave Athens a better place than they found it. All  
7 of us should put that ancient wisdom into practice  
8 here and now. All of us have a - all of us owe a  
9 decent quality of life to future generations. It's  
10 not a cliché. That is the honest truth. Thank you.

11 MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Kevin Reese.  
12 Kevin will be followed by Vanessa Reese, then Tim  
13 Potts, then Lynn Herman.

14 MR. REESE: Reese, R-E-E-S-E.

15 Good evening, my name is Kevin Reese.  
16 My relationship with PA Waste is that I am also a  
17 member of a hunting lease on the property. It has  
18 been a positive experience and there have been no  
19 issues while working with PA Waste. I am a local  
20 member of the community and reside in Clearfield  
21 County, which I appreciate this opportunity as a  
22 local resident to utilize the property for hunting.

23 Over the approximate year and a half  
24 existence of the lease I've been able to spend a  
25 considerable amount of time on the property. And

1 I've seen a definite increase in local wildlife and  
2 hunting opportunities. This not only benefits the  
3 hunting lease, but the neighboring properties as  
4 well due to the increase of wildlife of the area.  
5 The management of the property have substantially  
6 lowered the number of poaching and illegal  
7 activities on the property.

8           The illegal activities on the property  
9 prior to the lease were very high, with illegal  
10 killing of big game, scattering of littering and  
11 trucks passing, just to mention a few. The  
12 reduction of this illegal activity, again, I believe  
13 not only benefits PA Waste property, but also  
14 benefits the neighboring properties and the  
15 community.

16           I have also had the opportunity to  
17 look at the proposed layout of the landfill. Yes,  
18 there will be some properties that will be utilized  
19 by the landfill, but I feel they will have minimal  
20 effect on the local wildlife. I feel that property  
21 management of the wildlife is completed on the other  
22 existing property, with cooperation of members of  
23 the lease and PA Waste, hunting opportunities will  
24 continue to increase within the PA Waste property  
25 and neighboring properties.

1 I've also seen plans that PA Waste  
2 will be treating acid mine drainage from the  
3 property that was caused from earlier strip mining.  
4 The plan shows that it treats waste from the  
5 landfill and will also treat the acid mine drainage.  
6 That, in turn, will improve the water that is  
7 draining off the property, as compared to the  
8 quality of the water of how it is now.

9 In closing, I want to state that the  
10 hunting lease is just one positive example of how PA  
11 Waste has attempted to work with local member of the  
12 community in a positive way. As you've already  
13 heard, that there are many other positives that PA  
14 Waste has proposed would happen if the landfill was  
15 approved.

16 I believe through hard work and  
17 cooperation with PA Waste and the hunting lease  
18 members, the goals of continuing to manage wildlife  
19 on the property and to monitor - to keep the illegal  
20 activity to a minimum will be completed, along with  
21 additional benefits to the community. Thank you for  
22 your time.

23 MS. LEHMAN: Vanessa Reese.

24 MS. REESE: Hello, my name is Vanessa  
25 Reese, and I am a local resident. I'm just going to

1 briefly comment on my relationship with PA Waste.  
2 I've been affiliated with PA Waste for about  
3 approximately the last year and a half as a member  
4 of the hunting lease that is on the property.  
5 During that time period, PA Waste has been  
6 cooperative, respectful, responsive.

7                   And through our collaboration with  
8 them, we've been able to see an improvement in the  
9 land. There has been a decrease in the amount of  
10 destruction on the property, which has resulted in  
11 an increase in the wildlife. But there is one  
12 blatant concern with the land. And that is the acid  
13 mine drainage. And so as previously mentioned I  
14 just want to reiterate that through the  
15 environmental efforts of PA Waste that there's many  
16 benefits. Not only that, but also the economical  
17 and social benefits of it. So thank you.

18                   MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

19                   The next is Tim Potts. Tim Potts?  
20 Oh, sorry.

21                   MR. POTTS: This will be the shortest  
22 speech of the night. My name is Tim Potts, T-I-M,  
23 P-O-T-T-S.

24                   And I work for the railroad. And so I  
25 hope that these people take Mr. McCracken's advice



1 and bring it in by rail. And I support the Boggs  
2 Township Landfill. I support anything that brings  
3 employment and tax revenue to Clearfield County. It  
4 will provide us with 20 full-time jobs. It will  
5 help clean up the strip mine site. And the property  
6 taxes would rise from about \$10,000 a year to  
7 \$187,000 a year. That's all I have. Thank you.

8 MS. LEHMAN: Lynn Herman. Following  
9 Lynn Herman will be James Leitzinger, Fred Rougeux  
10 and Jim Parks.

11 MR. HERMAN: Thank you very much. My  
12 name is Lynn Herman. I support the approval of  
13 Pennsylvania Waste LLC application for a landfill  
14 beside Boggs Township. I was born and raised in  
15 Philipsburg. I graduated from the Philipsburg Area  
16 School District.

17 As many of you know, I am a former  
18 state representative, having served portions of  
19 Clearfield and Centre County in the State General  
20 Assembly for 24 years. During this time I was part  
21 of passing labor legislation to encourage businesses  
22 and entrepreneurs to go into dilapidated, polluted,  
23 underdeveloped sites in Pennsylvania to restore them  
24 to original condition and mitigate the pollution  
25 thereof. That was the Keystone Opportunity bill

1 legislation, Keystone Innovation bill legislation or  
2 the Brownfield legislation.

3           The Department of General Assembly is  
4 sort of a consulting business, involving controlling  
5 businesses and impacts. As many of you know, I was  
6 very heavily involved. I worked with a company that  
7 had a landfill in Brush Township in Centre County.  
8 I had an opportunity then to visit several landfills  
9 in central eastern Pennsylvania. I interviewed the  
10 landfill operators and the township supervisors  
11 regarding the economy, the environmental and  
12 residual impacts the specific landfill had in their  
13 municipality and area.

14           Done properly, a landfill constructed  
15 and done properly can provide for a tremendous level  
16 of economic benefits, job creation and mitigate  
17 environmental pollution in those areas. That's kind  
18 of how I find the beauty of where I worked for  
19 before, and also this application. Is that we know  
20 that in Centre County and in Clearfield County our  
21 land has been scarred for many, many decades by coal  
22 mining. And as a result thereof, mars the land and  
23 our waters have had tremendous sulfur pollution,  
24 which has not been mitigated whatsoever.

25           This application will provide for this

1 company to come in and provide potential job  
2 creation, revenues for the area. But it also will  
3 mitigate and resolve some acid mine pollution that  
4 we have in this area. But I want to share with you  
5 some of the things I found out in visiting various  
6 landfills in eastern central Pennsylvania, that were  
7 hosted in municipalities such as Boggs Township, and  
8 districts of people who acquire the benefits  
9 thereof.

10 My research in these six landfills  
11 revealed much commonality, as well as differences in  
12 how each municipality negotiated those agreements  
13 and how the locally elected officials in the  
14 community, leaders chose to disperse these funds  
15 derived from landfill operations and that host  
16 agreement.

17 All six landfill companies have an  
18 agreement with local boroughs or townships that  
19 generate substantial revenue for municipalities they  
20 use for the community benefits for citizens and  
21 local school districts. The amount of funds that  
22 these six landfills produce range from \$184,000 per  
23 year to \$2.3 million per year.

24 With these landfill revenues the host  
25 municipal officials have been able to lower or

1 stabilize the tax rates. In fact, they have not  
2 had to raise local taxes for over a decade. And in  
3 one case the municipality was able to win two  
4 different factors, that being the per capita and  
5 occupational standards.

6 In addition to not having to raise  
7 taxes and the opportunity to limit local taxes, each  
8 of those host municipalities have substantial  
9 infrastructure, public safety and investments on  
10 behalf of their citizens. The officials are able to  
11 use their newfound money to purchase materials for  
12 road and paving and maintenance equipment, police  
13 cars, streetlights, parks and recreational  
14 equipment. They are able to provide additional  
15 money for their fire and ambulance companies, their  
16 senior citizen centers, libraries, walking trails,  
17 and impart a greater standard of living all without  
18 acquiring debt.

19 And local school districts benefit in  
20 addition to the host municipalities. Of the six  
21 landfill operations I researched, all the local  
22 school districts benefit from the state taxes  
23 generated by the landfill company, benefits ranging  
24 from \$12,000 to \$124,370 per year.

25 I'm going to provide the rest of my

1 written comments to DEP officials. But I just want  
2 to conclude my statement by saying this. A landfill  
3 properly constructed is environmentally safe,  
4 provides benefits to you and to the people of Boggs  
5 Township and Clearfield County School District, it  
6 will provide great funding opportunities for all of  
7 your public service opportunities. Thank you very  
8 much.

9 MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

10 Next is James Leitzinger. And while  
11 James is coming forward I just want to point out  
12 there are a number of seats available here upfront  
13 to my left of the room. So if anyone who's standing  
14 would like to come forward and fill in some of the  
15 empty seats, please feel free to do so. And feel  
16 free to do so later on as seats become available.

17 MR. LEITZINGER: Good evening. I'm  
18 James Leitzinger, L-E-I-T-Z-I-N-G-E-R. I am a  
19 property owner in Clearfield Borough. My main issue  
20 is the truck traffic coming down 879. I don't know  
21 what time they're going to start, six o'clock in the  
22 morning, 250 trucks a day.

23 They're going to be coming down 879.  
24 They're going to come down to the bottom where you  
25 turn onto 153. Some of those fellows will be

1 probably going too fast. Or in the wintertime when  
2 it's snowy and icy, they're going to miss that and  
3 they're going to tip their truck onto 879 and into  
4 Marven Smith's back yard.

5 And they'll continue on, back up to  
6 the landfill. And when they come back, they'll  
7 follow the same tracks. They'll come down 153 again  
8 to Crest Highway, where there's a stop sign there.  
9 Over the years there have been a number of vehicles  
10 that have went through there and onto the property  
11 owner's farm, which he had fenced in.

12 He had to move it back approximately  
13 100 feet several years ago. It wasn't a truck, but  
14 another vehicle went through there and it hit his  
15 porch and killed him. I am definitely against that  
16 truck traffic in Clearfield and Clearfield County.  
17 We do not need it. And it is very costly.

18 I'm not sure how much it's costing,  
19 millions of dollars to the people of New York State  
20 and New Jersey. Why can't they develop a better  
21 system in their area to truck their garbage instead  
22 of bringing it into central Pennsylvania? Thank  
23 you.

24 MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Fred Rougeux.

25 MR. ROUGEUX: Yes, my name is Fred

1 Rougeux. I'm 75 years old. I've lived in  
2 Clearfield all my life, with the exception of  
3 several years when I was in college. The thing - a  
4 lot of this is the transportation. Over my lifetime  
5 I've driven well over a million miles in central  
6 Pennsylvania, working in management and sales.

7           When I've seen the quality of the  
8 drivers that they have driving these garbage trucks,  
9 a good place, and a good example - and I'm sure a  
10 lot of you have had this happen. You get on the  
11 Interstate 80 at Exit 120. There's a stop sign.  
12 Trucks run that stop sign all the time. Friday  
13 night I pretty near had an accident there.

14           I came up getting off of 80, come into  
15 town. A truck that was eastbound getting off pulled  
16 right out in front of me. That's a heavily traveled  
17 road. Probably in Clearfield County, with the  
18 exception of Shaffer Road over at DuBois, that is  
19 the busiest stretch of road in the county.

20           Another thing, some of you are annoyed  
21 by the exhaust brakes on trucks, with modified  
22 exhaust? And I understand this has actually  
23 happened. Trucks will be under full power coming up  
24 the grade from the interstate. And when they crest,  
25 they'll be starting down. They'll have to slow down

1 to get off onto Park Avenue.

2                   They'll be on their jake brakes hard.  
3 How many of them have basically illegal exhaust  
4 systems? Yeah, they're illegal in Pennsylvania.  
5 How many of you have heard that? I'm sure all of  
6 you have heard it.

7                   And also, when they go to turn left  
8 onto Park Avenue, that isn't that long of a left  
9 turn lane. So two or three of them are running  
10 together and they've got to wait. They're going to  
11 be stopping traffic on 879, creating a hazard.  
12 Also, that's a sharp corner. And they do it too  
13 fast. And how many of you have seen a rollover of  
14 garbage trucks? It's one heck of a mess to clean  
15 up.

16                   Coming back, the intersection of Glen  
17 Ridge or Highway 153. Either way, how many truck  
18 rollovers have they had due to improper speed?

19                   Now, one other thing. How many loaded  
20 trailers are going to be parking there? Are they  
21 going to unhook their trailers, hook onto an empty  
22 and then have a driving tractor? Probably a good  
23 parking lot at least full of garbage.

24                   The other thing, they went straight to  
25 Boggs Township, completely neglecting Clearfield



1 County or anything else with tipping fees. Also,  
2 the township that's going to be most impacted by  
3 this if it goes through is not Boggs Township, it  
4 will be Lawrence Township. Police protection,  
5 investigation of accidents, the fire trucks, the  
6 cleaning up and everything else. Lawrence Township  
7 is going to be the one that's burdened with the most  
8 debt. And it's been completely neglected. Thank  
9 you.

10 MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Jim Parks.  
11 Jim will be followed by Edith Schrot, J. Rudolph  
12 Schrot and Katie Gregoire.

13 MR. PARKS: I'm Jim Parks. Can you  
14 hear me? I'm Jim Parks.

15 I want to talk about the three blind  
16 spots on Route 153. Longhorn Road to 153, Old Neary  
17 Pike to 153, and Route 53 through to I guess Hogback  
18 Hill, where you're looking down towards Honesdale  
19 Madera. And you're going to get rear ended in the  
20 back if you turn off to Woodland there.

21 And also three school districts,  
22 Clearfield, Philipsburg Ocoela and Moshannon Valley  
23 travel that road. And Mo Valley goes to that Vo  
24 Tech in the morning and afternoon. And there's  
25 morning and afternoon for Clearfield, I don't know

1 if it's 2:30 or 3:30. Somewhere around there.

2 I've seen something on the internet  
3 the other day. I punched in PA Lawyers against  
4 landfills. And that showed - one showed like \$5  
5 million lawsuits and stuff. And it's like a -  
6 that's like a parking ticket I guess to these guys.  
7 Yeah, it's like \$5 million in lawsuits and stuff  
8 like that. PA, period, lawyers against landfills.

9 And why do we have to have a better  
10 landfill in? We've got Kersey and McElhattan in  
11 Clinton County, I don't know if I said that right.  
12 I was just wondering why we'd want to do that.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Wayne Township.

14 MR. PARKS: Oh, yeah, Wayne Township.  
15 Thank you.

16 A question for developers. Would you  
17 be willing to move out of your happy house and move  
18 down to one of the houses down there? For 25 years,  
19 as long as the landfill is going to be operating.  
20 That's what I want to - I'd have withdrawn the lease  
21 by now. Thank you.

22 MS. LEHMAN: Next is Edith Schrot.

23 MS. SCHROT: Edith Schrot,  
24 S-C-H-R-O-T. Based on the environmental assessment,  
25 I am strongly opposed to the proposed landfill

1 mostly because of the severe irreparable damage that  
2 it could cause to our groundwater. Our family has  
3 two properties that would be in danger. One is a  
4 129 year old family homestead on Carbon Mine Road  
5 where we continue to have a subsidence farm for our  
6 family. That has continued for 129 years.

7           The second one is another 77 year old  
8 family homestead across the street on Carbon Mine  
9 Road. In general, there are two points that I would  
10 like to make. The environmental assessment  
11 analysis, number one, unrealistically minimizes the  
12 real hazard of the dump. And for me and for lots of  
13 other people, it's mainly contamination of the  
14 groundwater. And as some people have said, that  
15 cannot be fixed. All landfills leak. Look it up.

16           The second point is the assessment  
17 analysis, at least for me and apparently some other  
18 people. It does not convincingly demonstrate any  
19 benefits, any. Just in general. Specifically I  
20 would like to note that there seems to be an  
21 important omission in the environmental assessment  
22 analysis.

23           It is stated in the analysis on page  
24 18 that there are no concerns for seismic stability  
25 in the area of the landfill. And this is different

1 actually from Mr. Hughes' report, but kind of the  
2 same thing. First of all, and to explain that. A  
3 fracking - no, wait, hang on. In March of 2017 the  
4 PA DEP linked hydraulic fracking operations with an  
5 earthquake in Lawrence County, 140 miles away from  
6 Clearfield. Honestly, not that much when you're  
7 talking about strata.

8           Number two, geologists, independent  
9 geologists and the department of natural resources  
10 have agreed that recent earthquakes in Ohio, in the  
11 last six years or so, were caused by injecting  
12 fracking wastewater into their disposal wells. One  
13 of the earthquakes was a 4.0 magnitude on the  
14 Richter scale.

15           Number three, a wastewater - fracking  
16 wastewater injection well has been approved. But it  
17 is being opposed. But it's been approved by the DEP  
18 for a site in Brady Township, about 20 miles or less  
19 from the proposed landfill site.

20           Number four, therefore, this could  
21 happen in the area of the proposed landfill.  
22 Apparently this was not considered in the present  
23 analysis and was no studied. At the present time  
24 there are 10,097 fracking wells in Pennsylvania.  
25 All needed disposal sites for their waste. As many

1 as 12 are now pending before the EPA.

2 Seismic activity near or at landfill  
3 sites could disrupt the integrity of the containment  
4 of the toxic waste. And it could disrupt the liner,  
5 disrupt the integrity of the whole structure, as  
6 happened in the one in Greenville, where the whole  
7 side slid out and a guy and his bulldozer were  
8 sucked into the landfill.

9 In closing, I encourage all those  
10 opposed to the dump to persist in their efforts. I  
11 personally am familiar with two dumps that was  
12 canceled because of public opposition in New York  
13 State. In New York State the state itself, the  
14 State of New York is going to run a nuclear landfill  
15 in Allegheny County, New York, tiny, smaller than  
16 this county -.

17 MR. VILLELLO: Time.

18 MS. SCHROT: Thank you.

19 MS. LEHMAN: Next is J. Rudolph  
20 Schrot.

21 MR. SCHROT: I'm Ruddy Schrot,  
22 S-C-H-R-O-T, attached to the last speaker.

23 I'm going to make this a little bit  
24 hometownish. As a young boy I fished many streams  
25 in the area. And many of those streams after I did

1 that became polluted with acid mine drainage.  
2 However, I would like to say at this point the  
3 Susquehanna River Basin and other watershed  
4 organizations have been working very hard to restore  
5 and mitigate the insults that were put on by the  
6 acid mine drainage. Many of those programs are  
7 successful.

8 To add toxic waste from a municipal  
9 landfill would be a step backwards. To quote some  
10 other people who mentioned the mission statement of  
11 the Department of Environmental Protection. The  
12 mission is to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and  
13 water from pollution and provide for the health and  
14 safety of its citizens through a cleaner  
15 environment.

16 Citing the proposed landfill is  
17 contradictory to the DEP mission. I strongly oppose  
18 citing this landfill. Thank you.

19 MS. LEHMAN: Katie Gregoire. Katie -  
20 Katie will be followed by Dean Rodkey, Lewis  
21 Augenbaugh and Robert Anderson.

22 MS. GREGOIRE: My name is Katie  
23 Gregoire, that's K-A-T-I-E, G-R-E-G-O-I-R-E.

24 And I strongly opposed the proposed  
25 Camp Hope Run Landfill. And I'll address too many

1 reasons for this today. The first is the  
2 environmental harms. And there are three aspects to  
3 this. The first is the impact of the leakage and  
4 leeching results of the landfill. The liner of the  
5 landfill confirms to the bare minimum of the  
6 regulatory requirements.

7 This is clearly stated and understated  
8 by the applicant. As has been stated previously,  
9 the EPA has shown that all liners will eventually  
10 crack, tear or otherwise degrade and allow leaching  
11 to the surrounding area. It is widely accepted that  
12 even the best liners will only delay the release of  
13 leaching.

14 As the proposed landfill confers to  
15 the minimum standards rather than the highest  
16 standards, the inevitable leakage is even more  
17 likely. You know, this matters because the  
18 chemicals in modern consumer products cause solid  
19 waste landfills such as the one proposed to produce  
20 leaching comparable in toxicity to hazardous waste  
21 dumps. This is what will be going into our water  
22 for the foreseeable future.

23 Despite this, the DEP counts this  
24 leakage as a minor and potential harm. This means  
25 that the harms and benefits analysis that is present

1 at the end of the environmental assessment analysis  
2 is skewed significantly in favor of the landfill and  
3 cannot actually be counted as an accurate response  
4 and analysis of the harms and benefits.

5           The second aspect is the impact of the  
6 surviving wetlands. It is accepted that the  
7 landfill will directly impact nine wetlands and have  
8 secondary impacts on three others. The proposed  
9 solution to this is to construct wetlands of higher  
10 quality.

11           But there is no mention of where these  
12 wetlands will be created, where the money to do so  
13 will come from or what exactly will make these  
14 wetlands a higher quality. Therefore, this cannot  
15 be considered a benefit nor a mitigation of a harm,  
16 as there is no proof of when, where or how these  
17 wetlands will be created.

18           The third aspect to this is the  
19 proposed environmental benefits. The landfill's  
20 main claim is that it will stop the acid mine  
21 drainage. But there is no actual timeline for the  
22 movement of acid rock or the treatment of  
23 contaminated groundwater. Although a plan is in  
24 place to do so, this is not binding. And therefore,  
25 it's only a potential benefit, which may not happen.



1           It is therefore clear that the known  
2 harm of leaching far outweighs the potential benefit  
3 of the acid mine treatment. Furthermore, even if  
4 this treatment were to occur, the toxic leakage from  
5 the landfill would outweigh the benefits from the  
6 acid treatment.

7           There are already numerous methods in  
8 place from both federal and state organizations to  
9 minimize, neutralize and treat acid mine drainage.  
10 These solutions have been highly effective. On the  
11 other hand, the landfill proposes to treat one  
12 problem by creating another.

13           What is then clear is the construction  
14 of the landfill will result in the known home of  
15 toxic leakage in the environment. The only  
16 potential benefit is the potential treatment of acid  
17 mine drainage. However, this is not an assured  
18 benefit and it is not the most effective way to  
19 solve the acid mine drainage problem.

20           The second problem with the landfill  
21 is the lack of clear benefit or need. There are two  
22 aspects to this. The first is the second benefit  
23 the landfill claims, which is a boost to the  
24 Clearfield economy. However, these benefits rest on  
25 the assumption that the employment and use of

1 services will happen and be local.

2           These benefits will only last for the  
3 operational life of the facility and are small in  
4 scope and not quantitative. Therefore, the benefits  
5 are both potential and minor, and do not justify the  
6 landfill's construction.

7           The second aspect is the lack of  
8 demonstrated need. The landfill is proposed as a  
9 municipal waste landfill, but cannot accept  
10 municipal waste, as it's not on the county's solid  
11 waste disposal plan. It's also unclear where the  
12 waste for the landfill would actually come from.

13           And the environmental assessment  
14 analysis even mentions that, quote, any benefit as a  
15 result of the construction of the landfill is  
16 speculative, unquote. And it rejects the  
17 applicant's claim that the landfill actually fills a  
18 need.

19           Surrounding landfills have more than  
20 the ability to take care of our waste. And  
21 therefore, this landfill is absolutely not  
22 necessary. This clearly shows that there are no  
23 long-term benefits resulting from the landfill, nor  
24 is there a need for the landfill itself.

25           When the environmental harms of the

1 landfill are factored in, it clearly shows that it  
2 would result in a net harm to the residents and to  
3 the environment of Clearfield County. And I  
4 strongly urge that the construction of the landfill  
5 to be blocked. Thank you.

6 MS. LEHMAN: Next up is Dean Rodkey.

7 MR. RODKEY: My name's Dean Rodkey,  
8 R-O-D-K-E-Y. I've lived in Sanborn, in that area  
9 for most of my life. And I hunt in that area and I  
10 see all the runoff that's coming off into the  
11 streams and polluting the streams. My opinion is I  
12 think with the technology that they have now if they  
13 put the landfill in they can treat the water  
14 effectively.

15 And the ground is already pretty much  
16 ruined up there from strip mining and all that  
17 there. And I think the money could be given to help  
18 the surrounding communities. And I guess I'm kind  
19 of in favor of it.

20 MS. LEHMAN: Next is Lewis  
21 Aughenbaugh. Lewis will be followed by Robert  
22 Anderson and Roger Gallaher.

23 MR. AUGHENBAUGH: My name is Lewis  
24 Aughenbaugh, A-U-G-H-E-N-B-A-U-G-H. And I live out  
25 in Spring Valley. And about the last 20 years

1 there's been gossip about the landfill paying real  
2 estate tax. That's just some gossip I heard. And  
3 I'd like to say I oppose the landfill. It's like  
4 over in State College, they put in some things over  
5 there. And all they did was raise the taxes after  
6 they did all the work and that.

7           And about the landfill going in with  
8 the - for the qualities. And all it's going to do  
9 is ruin the water. And I'm worried about the - the  
10 three stops there, where the stops are going to jam  
11 up the traffic and everything. And about the people  
12 that's been killed like out there. The Goss family  
13 was killed out there. And out on HTP there's a  
14 blind spot and at the top of the mountain there,  
15 going towards Ulysses Bridge there's blind spots.  
16 And there's blind spots here already.

17           And then if they bring in all this  
18 traffic, that's just going to be more trouble out  
19 there. And the traffic and then my - my post lady  
20 just got hit by a truck, a coal truck that went by.  
21 It smashed her windshield. And I'm just so worried  
22 about so much traffic going on and stuff like that.  
23 That's what it's like with the traffic right now.  
24 And then if they bring in all these trucks and  
25 stuff, what are we going to do with that? And

1 that's three times as much.

2 Plus, the roads should be - right now  
3 there's no road. With the traffic they're going to  
4 bring in, how are we going to take all that traffic  
5 and stuff? And I don't understand how they're going  
6 to handle everything like that. I don't know.  
7 That's all I have to say. I'm just worried about  
8 the traffic and the bonding of the roads and stuff  
9 like that. That's all I have to say.

10 MS. LEHMAN: Next is Robert Anderson.  
11 Robert Anderson? Okay. Robert Anderson? No,  
12 you're just standing up. Sorry. All right. Well,  
13 I guess Robert is no longer with us - here tonight.  
14 I'm sorry how that came out. All right. Next up is  
15 Roger Gallaher. Roger will be followed by Steve  
16 Harmic and John Vargo.

17 MR. GALLAGHER: Roger Gallaher,  
18 R-O-G-E-R, G-A-L-L-A-H-E-R. I've lived out there  
19 for 40 years. And they say not my backyard. It is  
20 exactly my backyard. Mr. Rovner has taken me to  
21 dinner and bought my lunch. He's tried to convince  
22 me how great it would be. And he's even made offers  
23 to buy me out. And I said no. I put up with the  
24 VFI landfill about a half mile from my home. And  
25 I've got rats and rattlesnakes and bears in the

1 driveway from, you know, landfills.

2                   This is what happens. They tell you  
3 how good it is. They don't tell you how bad it is.  
4 I even had to - had to put up with sludge, you name  
5 it. I've put up with it out there in these 40  
6 years. And I heard these people get up and say,  
7 hey, we're on the lease, we're doing great. You  
8 should have been there when it wasn't great. Right  
9 now they have they call it brownfield.

10                   Well, two years ago they chipped all  
11 the timber that was there and made it worse. They  
12 more skid marks and more erosion into the creek,  
13 into the big creek, into the river. Excuse me. But  
14 I don't see DEP out there stopping them when they're  
15 doing their timbering and stuff like that. If they  
16 strip it you've got to have erosion control and so  
17 forth.

18                   But there's nothing that's really  
19 changed in the last ten years since they denied this  
20 permit. The traffic has gotten actually more. I  
21 mean we all know it. And as far as property taxes  
22 go, nobody's ever reduced my taxes for what I had to  
23 put up with. And Philipsburg is now saying they're  
24 going to raise my school taxes. Everybody in Boggs  
25 Township and Clearfield County is going to get their

1 taxes increased.

2           But they also said there was one Camp  
3 Rattlesnake and two homes. There's two homes,  
4 there's that camp back on - on their property.  
5 There's a four acre piece in the middle of their  
6 property. But there's also four camps within 400  
7 yards of my home. And I haven't heard anybody  
8 address them as to how well they're going to make  
9 out. They're not going to do anything at all.

10           But it's just - I can't see -.  
11 Nothing's changed. What's going to change when they  
12 did all this environmental stuff ten years ago and  
13 they said it was no good. What has changed to bring  
14 this back up again? I mean, they've brought real  
15 estate agents out and everything. They really want  
16 this bad, they do. But the thing is, when these  
17 people get it they're going to sell it as soon as  
18 they get it.

19           There's no ifs, ands or buts. When  
20 Barachetti got the last landfill out there, the day  
21 he got his permit he sold it for something like \$7  
22 million. I mean, he was gone. He was out of the  
23 business. These people are going to put in all  
24 kinds of water treatment and they're going to do  
25 this, this and this. We're talking millions and

1 millions of dollars to make this billions of  
2 dollars.

3                   So how many of you people have been  
4 offered to get a dime out of this? Not one of you.  
5 So for the rich to get richer, the poor have to get  
6 poorer. That's it.

7                   MS. LEHMAN: Next is Steve Harmic.

8                   MR. HARMIC: Hi, Steve Harmic. Harmic  
9 is H-A-R-M-I-C.

10                   I'm representing Clearfield Borough  
11 tonight. Recently we as a council voted unanimously  
12 to oppose the Camp Hope Run landfill. Some of the  
13 reasons that we might have, we might not be affected  
14 as directly as some of our neighbors and other  
15 municipalities. But we do believe that we have very  
16 real concerns. Some of those as Commissioner  
17 McCracken and Mr. Leitzinger and others have noted,  
18 first and foremost the traffic for us.

19                   Truck traffic on area roadways will  
20 increase dramatically, even under normal  
21 circumstances. And should Interstate 80 be closed  
22 due to an accident or weather or construction, those  
23 volumes of traffic will increase even more through  
24 out borough.

25                   Our elementary schools have been



1 consolidated into one building, which already brings  
2 challenges in managing busing schedules and other  
3 traffic in and out of those schools are least twice  
4 a day. At locations like the intersection at River  
5 Road and 879, truck traffic coming off of 80 could  
6 contribute to the further ingestion of roadways and  
7 even endanger the children being bused to and from  
8 the school.

9           Additionally, statistics indicate that  
10 65 percent of the traffic pattern for this landfill  
11 will impact Clearfield Borough. Excessive road  
12 damage will occur with the predicted amount of  
13 traffic. Possible accidents are always a concern.  
14 Certainly spilling garbage on roadways will  
15 contaminate our surrounding ground and waterways.

16           Our already strained police, fire and  
17 emergency management personnel are not prepared  
18 physically or financially to handle this excess.  
19 And we have not been offered bonds or any form of  
20 compensation from the company proposing the landfill  
21 to cover any of these costs.

22           The idea of accepting out of state  
23 waste is unappealing to most of us. And in addition  
24 to the obvious environmental concerns that we have  
25 about transporting waste through the borough - as

1 well as those concerns we have for our neighbors who  
2 will have this site in their backyards. Would there  
3 be any local benefits?

4           Such as, would our own local disposal  
5 companies be able to utilize this facility, thus  
6 decreasing the mileage they must travel to a  
7 disposal site, creating the savings that could  
8 trickle down to our residents? We've already  
9 learned tonight that that will not happen.

10           Additionally, while our branch of the  
11 Susquehanna River continues to improve through our  
12 efforts, possible influx of seepage in the  
13 Clearfield Creek will have a very negative impact  
14 along the Susquehanna River, this following the  
15 completion of the \$27 million sewer project in our  
16 community, funded by grants and PennDOT's loans with  
17 the good intentions of maintaining a healthy  
18 environment.

19           And moreover we as a council realize  
20 again that other municipalities may be affected even  
21 more directly than what we are. We feel it is our  
22 duty as good neighbors to stand with them in  
23 opposing this landfill. Thank you.

24           MS. LEHMAN: Next up John Vargo. John  
25 will be followed by Bruce Bliss, Victoria Beck and

1 Shawn Malloy.

2 MR. VARGO: Good evening. Can you  
3 hear me? Raise your hand. Thank you. Great.

4 My name is John Vargo. I'm a  
5 professional engineer. I've been a professional  
6 engineer for many years. And I started with PA  
7 Waste on this project way back in 2001. Can you  
8 imagine? It takes that long to get something done.  
9 I'm going to discuss the need. And everybody that's  
10 wary of this dump better start to think about what  
11 that means about the price of your garbage at the  
12 back door.

13 If everybody in this country says no  
14 dump, you're going to see \$100 a month charge for  
15 your garbage. That's not good.

16 MS. LEHMAN: Once again, please do not  
17 interrupt the speakers. Everyone gets their turn.

18 MR. VARGO: Now, listen to this.  
19 They're statistics that don't lie. Waste 360 News  
20 reports Pennsylvania's landfill capacity is  
21 shrinking. Where are you going to take it? Okay.  
22 Also Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, according to recent  
23 announcements by the Pennsylvania Waste Industry  
24 Association, the state will soon face a severe loss  
25 in disposal capacity.

1           And it's based on permanent volume,  
2 and volume statistics published by the State  
3 Department of Environmental Protection. For the  
4 past two years, DEP has not issued a single permit  
5 for a new municipal waste landfill. And they never  
6 - and they have not issued a permit for expanding an  
7 existing landfill.

8           As a matter of fact, there has not  
9 been a permit issued for a new MSW landfill in more  
10 than 21 years. Pennsylvania has less than 6.3 years  
11 available for MSW disposal capacity and less than  
12 two years of adequate capacity in the eastern half  
13 of the state. According to EWIA, the analyses  
14 indicate that by the end of next year, most of the  
15 state will face a capacity deficit of more than  
16 12,000 tons per day.

17           There are 166 permitted landfills in  
18 the northeast. U.S. landfills have decreased from  
19 6,326 to 1,956 between 1990 and 2014. This is about  
20 a 300 percent decrease in 24 years. Thirty-six (36)  
21 percent of all U.S. landfills are privately owned.  
22 Sixty-four (64) percent of all U.S. landfills are  
23 public entities, government, townships, counties.  
24 They like them, they have the economy.

25           Household waste is the primary source

1 of MSW, 55 to 65 percent of the total MSW generated.  
2 Each individual generates three pounds of MSW waste  
3 every day. This is corrected for recycling.  
4 Otherwise it would be 4.5 pounds per person. Local  
5 governments are agreeable to landfill business  
6 because the economic development is worth it to the  
7 community.

8 The increased demand for waste  
9 disposal space as the population increases  
10 throughout the United States will have an effect on  
11 the cost for disposal at everyone's back door.

12 MR. VILLELLO: Fifteen (15) seconds.

13 MR. VARGO: Fifteen (15) seconds?

14 Okay. There's a lot more here, but I want to say  
15 this. I want to tell a little story.

16 MR. VILLELLO: Good citizens of  
17 Clearfield County, we're going to give him 20  
18 seconds.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're changing the  
20 rules.

21 MR. KOHL: The rule was also please  
22 don't interrupt our speakers.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm not  
24 interrupting. He's done.

25 MR. VILLELLO: Yeah, 20 seconds, sir.

1           MR. KOHL: Sir, we're going to give  
2 you 20 more seconds. All right?

3           MR. VARGO: In closing, I want to say  
4 this. One day several years ago PA Waste members  
5 and DEP members from the waste office were on the  
6 proposed landfill site discussing the layout of this  
7 disposal cell. While several of us were leaning on  
8 my truck looking out over the site, a DEP waste  
9 official came over and said it doesn't get any  
10 better than this.

11           MR. VILLELLO: Time, thank you.

12           MS. LEHMAN: Okay, everyone, we have  
13 15 minutes left before our advertised end time. We  
14 have seven speakers left. We're going to try to get  
15 all seven in. We're going to try to give everybody  
16 their five minutes if they need it. If you don't  
17 need five minutes, that's just fine. But we have a  
18 hard stop to close the hearing at 9:30. Okay? So  
19 next up is Bruce Bliss, followed by Victoria Beck  
20 and Shawn Malloy. Bruce?

21           MR. BLISS: I'm Bruce Bliss,  
22 B-R-U-C-E, B-L-I-S-S.

23                         Since the last meeting with had with  
24 DEP in January 22nd, 2013, there's been another  
25 fatality out there. We actually lost a Boggs

1 Township supervisor. This is something that's going  
2 to continue on and probably get a lot worse. Since  
3 we've approximately had ten new young families move  
4 into the area, several young kids - in fact, there's  
5 one person here tonight that's waiting on his wife,  
6 she's due any day now. And another young family  
7 right below him that just got married three weeks  
8 ago.

9 I think this is something to really  
10 concern us because these are young families coming  
11 to this area. There's going to be more busses out  
12 there, more stops. And you've got to deal with all  
13 this garbage? I don't think that's right. And as  
14 far as DEP standards, they allow two defaults,  
15 defects per acre, which is clearly - 436 defects or  
16 holes in this liner in this permitted area. Now you  
17 can't tell me that's not going to leak and it's  
18 going to end up into our water source.

19 And as far as the host agreement, that  
20 should have been canceled a long time ago when Camp  
21 Hope pulled their application. And that's pretty  
22 much all I have to say.

23 MS. LEHMAN: Next is Victoria Beck,  
24 followed by Shawn Malloy, James Cling and Bill  
25 Bloom.

1                   MS. BECK: Hello, I'm Victoria Beck,  
2 B-E-C-K. I am not an expert, but I am here as a  
3 citizen of Clearfield County. So my family actually  
4 are settlers of this town. And I've lived along  
5 Clearfield Creek since 1979, 39 years. For all of  
6 the 39 years, I have watched the creek. I have  
7 tried to be active. I've talked to Camille George.  
8 I've done everything I could do to bring that  
9 waterway back. And I haven't been successful in  
10 anything yet.

11                   But I know that there are  
12 organizations that have worked with the Susquehanna.  
13 I know that there are many people who are involved  
14 in Little Clearfield and so on. And you folks are  
15 representing the people who are passionate about our  
16 town. And I'm glad to be here with you.

17                   The experts that have been here are  
18 talking about various technical things that are  
19 wrong with what's going to happen if this dump is  
20 permitted by the DEP. And I'm not angry with the  
21 DEP, because I think they try very hard. But the  
22 DEP cannot remediate anything, any broken trust.  
23 And there's been a lot of that in the whole  
24 industry, I believe, unless there are plans to do  
25 so. And bonding only works as long as the bonding



1 is effective and it only goes so far.

2                   And we have all in our county  
3 experienced things like that. I am trying to  
4 actually stand here before you guys and say even  
5 though technically some of these things that they're  
6 promising may - may be acceptable, I think you need  
7 to look at the human equivalent here as well. And  
8 realize that in our county we have been affected by  
9 industries taking our natural resources and  
10 despoiling our lands for too long.

11                   And why tunnel that on? And the  
12 remediation that they are promising for the coal  
13 industry, I remediated a 1940s high wall on my  
14 property. I know what that takes. It wasn't very  
15 big and I'm not a rich person. But I thought I did  
16 my little part. Okay? But I understand that nobody  
17 can fix it completely. And I certainly couldn't.

18                   The DEP, if you're considering this,  
19 are you considering the synergy between the gas  
20 wells that have been permitted. Are you considering  
21 the logging operations that are going on? And the  
22 fact that, as Mr. Hughes pointed out, there is that  
23 fracture and we are on the Burgoon Sandstone. These  
24 are all things that need put together. They don't  
25 stand alone.

1                   And we are at risk from a lot of this,  
2 as you all well know around the country. So I think  
3 that that's something too that needs to be  
4 considered. Ms. Gregoire was very good at  
5 dissecting the application with all of its good  
6 things. So I applaud you for that. I don't have  
7 those kinds of facts. But I'm speaking from my  
8 heart and soul and love for this town. I wish you  
9 would reconsider and not approve this, as many of us  
10 wish you would. Thank you very much.

11                   MS. LEHMAN: Next is Shawn Malloy.  
12 Shawn Malloy? Shawn has also left the building it  
13 appears. Okay. Next is James Cling. James is  
14 followed by Bill Bloom, Rick Swatsworth and John  
15 Mikesell.

16                   MR. CLING: My name is James Cling,  
17 C-L-I-N-G.

18                   I also represent the Clearfield  
19 Borough. I said I wasn't going to speak because  
20 most everything that I had on my mind has already  
21 been said numerous times. I will say that, you  
22 know, about 22 years ago we had a problem with the  
23 Benjamin Coal Company going bankrupt up in the  
24 Westover. I was very instrumental, along with  
25 others, in stopping the bankrupt coal company from

1 not treating the polluted waters.

2           If that had not been done within  
3 several days of the expiration date of those  
4 permits, we would have seen the Chess Creek from  
5 Westover down into the Susquehanna River, down in  
6 Curwensville Lake, down through Clearfield Borough,  
7 down through the lake, the whole way down to  
8 Harrisburg. This water would have been destroyed.

9           I don't live in the area. I travel to  
10 it. I have fished it, I have hunted it, I have  
11 walked it. It's a beautiful piece of property.  
12 It's no place for a dump. We in Clearfield have a  
13 small fire department, police department. We rely  
14 on the help of other areas. And when you have the  
15 traffic that goes through our town when there's an  
16 accident on Interstate 80 - now I'm sure some of you  
17 have been there. Our men go out, they spend hours  
18 directing traffic, moving the traffic. They don't  
19 get paid for it. Our equipment sits out there and  
20 runs, eats fuel. Our police chief is out there  
21 doing things. We get no recovery other than usually  
22 another accident involved with moving the traffic.

23           I'm starting to lose my - I didn't  
24 bring any paperwork. I'm sorry. But my emotions  
25 tell me this is all wrong. I feel for you people

1 who are affected directly, because you had a  
2 beautiful, beautiful, beautiful piece of country out  
3 there. And now - I've been around the dumps down in  
4 Maryland. As a matter of fact, this comes out of  
5 New York State, Jersey? So where's it come from?  
6 They're going to move it up from Bucks County to  
7 here. Why don't you just leave it there? Thank  
8 you.

9 MS. LEHMAN: Rick Swatsworth?

10 MR. SWATSWORTH: Rick  
11 S-W-A-T-S-W-O-R-T-H.

12 I want to thank the DEP for giving the  
13 time to me to exercise my constitutional rights.  
14 I'm not a professional. I've been down this road  
15 before. I was at the last meeting at the  
16 lighthouse. I registered. DEP had promised to send  
17 me their findings in writing of my comments and  
18 everybody else's comments that spoke. I never  
19 received that. You do have my email address. I  
20 would like the findings.

21 I'm not a professional. Mr. Hughes  
22 has done an excellent job. I was going bring up the  
23 fact that there's a fault line. I think there is a  
24 federal law that you can't build anything on a fault  
25 line, maybe I'm wrong. Three commissioners, a past

1 commissioner, several attorneys who represent and  
2 solicit for townships and boroughs, I'm glad you're  
3 here taking in the knowledge. I did see  
4 Representative Sankey here. I'm glad he's here.

5           What your job is, people - and I'm not  
6 telling you your job. I'm asking. Please protect  
7 my water. Please protect my environment. Please  
8 protect my county. I have a daughter and a  
9 granddaughter. Once this landfill is built we're  
10 losing 2,000 acres of Clearfield County.

11           The county institutes recycling laws,  
12 we have to recycle. The Chesapeake Watershed Bay  
13 Association, and I probably said that wrong, is  
14 charging us money to take the arsenic, the mercury  
15 and everything out of the water before it gets to  
16 the bay so them people have clean drinking water.  
17 That should be a very important concern of DEP.

18           Number two, how come no one talks of a  
19 recycling plant like the State of Minnesota has  
20 where 120 people work good-paying jobs. How about  
21 an incinerator? How about we harvest the water from  
22 the five springs on that property to generate  
23 electricity to hook to the main power grid that runs  
24 close by to this property?

25           No one talks about that. But yet they

1 pass laws and institute regulations where we're got  
2 to dispose of our trash, right, we have to recycle.  
3 We need a few more recycling centers to recycle the  
4 products that each and every one of you throw out  
5 into trash.

6           The county's done a great job of  
7 cleaning up landfills and dumps through the area.  
8 I'm probably a sinner, and I take that back. But  
9 there are people who go places to dump stuff. And  
10 some people who have big properties are actually  
11 putting little dumps on their property for their  
12 family because there's nowhere to take this stuff.

13           Now, I have a vision - I have a dream.  
14 You dump your stuff on a big black conveyor belt and  
15 it runs 200 yards to an assembly line with people  
16 dressed in safety material, breathing apparatuses,  
17 and they recycle. And then we grind up. They're  
18 putting garbage in blacktop nowadays. They're doing  
19 a lot with garbage.

20           As you can see, China has closed down  
21 because of the plastic in the cities. Cities are  
22 banning straws because they're like cigarette butts.  
23 When I'm done with it, fling. I think everybody who  
24 throws a cigarette butt on the ground should be  
25 fined \$5,000 if they throw another one on the

1 ground.

2 But anyway, I'm here as a concerned  
3 citizen. Some of you people probably missed work  
4 tonight. Some of these people took financial burden  
5 to be at this meeting, because they're concerned  
6 about their family, their water, our area.

7 Our tourism board, they're spending  
8 thousands of dollars to bring people in to spend  
9 their money in our county and see the things we  
10 have. Oh, here's Bilgers Rock, here's Curwensville  
11 Lake, here's Chinco, a moose. Oh, by the way 2,000  
12 acres of landfill that we'll never use the rest of  
13 my life, that little boy's life and who knows how  
14 long. I don't see them building buildings on  
15 landfills.

16 And in closing, my comment to you,  
17 sir, you made a comment. Your taxes will go down.  
18 When has that ever happened? Thank you.

19 MS. LEHMAN: The last speakers who  
20 registered tonight is John Mikesell. John?

21 MR. MIKESELL: I'm Jon Mikesell,  
22 J-O-N, M-I-K-E-S-E-L-L.

23 I am a Boggs Township property owner.  
24 I also am a local educator. I've always encouraged  
25 my students to get involved in the political system.

1 Mr. Wagner, you indicated that you're a politician  
2 and that you like to take in the process of people's  
3 concerns and stuff. And most of my questions were  
4 answered by Mr. Hughes. And so I believe the other  
5 gentleman, Mr. Wagner, indicated that there were a  
6 lot of people that were for this dump that aren't  
7 here.

8 I've been sitting back at the back.  
9 And I've watched at least 50 people with my sticker  
10 with the no thumb. I am asking everyone to take a  
11 stand, because this is the country that we live in.  
12 I don't really know, but I would like to see a raise  
13 of hands of Clearfield County residents. Not  
14 somebody that came in, like Mr. Wagner that is for  
15 the dump. Will you please raise your hand?

16 Mr. Wagner, are you looking at the  
17 number of people in this audience tonight that are  
18 for the dump? Okay. Now I'm going to flip that.  
19 How many sitting in the audience tonight are against  
20 the dump? Raise your hands.

21 Now, if you are a politician for Mr.  
22 Rendell and you are concerned, I can tell you the  
23 statistical polls will tell you that this area, this  
24 county, does not want this dump. It has been also  
25 mentioned tonight about recycling. I wish you would



1 take your money and your financial backing, and as a  
2 couple people had mentioned, put more emphasis on  
3 recycling instead of landfills.

4           And then finally to DEP, I am glad  
5 that you did issue permits, but now you're in our  
6 backyard. And no one, as Mr. Hughes has indicated,  
7 can tell me where the garbage comes from. And to  
8 the gentleman that is the garbage guy, I understand  
9 that. But you know what? DEP, you have a job  
10 because you're a Pennsylvania resident that we pay  
11 taxes to put you into office.

12           My question is, why are we providing  
13 garbage from New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico,  
14 wherever, Boston, and more importantly Philadelphia?  
15 And I realize it's a big population. But do not  
16 destroy our environment at the cost of higher people  
17 in populations in Philadelphia not recycling, not  
18 being responsible. Because I can assure you that  
19 the people sitting in this audience, we are  
20 responsible. And you have a responsibility as an  
21 elected person for the state to take in the  
22 consideration of our concerns. That's all I have to  
23 say.

24           MS. LEHMAN: Thank you to all of our  
25 speakers -. Pardon?

1           MR. JOE KENDRICK: I put my name  
2 there, and the gentleman on the far side put my name  
3 and my son's name.

4           MS. LEHMAN: So I'm sorry, you're  
5 saying that you signed up and your name was not on  
6 the list?

7           MR. JOE KENDRICK: I signed up.

8           MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

9           Well, we can give you a moment. We're  
10 at nine o'clock now. We can allow -. Would you  
11 like to speak? Would you like to speak, sir?

12          MR. JOE KENDRICK: Yes.

13          MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

14                 And you said you had a son as well?

15          MR. JOE KENDRICK: Yes.

16          MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

17                 So those two speakers will allow. And  
18 I apologize for whatever misunderstanding occurred.

19                 Please state and spell your name for the court  
20 reporter, and five minutes, please.

21          MR. JOE KENDRICK: It'll only take up  
22 one minute each. I'm Joe Kendrick, K-E-N-D-R-I-C-K.  
23 My son is Jacob Kendrick, same last name.

24                 I am a community member and I also own  
25 a business here. I am working in the service

1 industry in this area. You know, folks, we do have  
2 a great, great community. This garbage dump  
3 absolutely can't come here. These guys have been  
4 denied in the past. If they do - if they actually  
5 grant this one now, it proves the corruption within  
6 the DEP Department.

7 We pay these people to do their jobs.  
8 There is - you put the hands up. Mr. Mikesell had  
9 them put the hands up, and I think Mr. Hughes did,  
10 too, in the beginning. You see the number of us.  
11 The majority of us don't want this. You're tax paid  
12 employees. You're not making money for the state.  
13 You're employees to do the bidding of your people.

14 Safety matters, our community matters.  
15 We're going to frack it, we're going to mine it,  
16 we're going to keep on doing whatever we want. One  
17 of the environmental issues that has not come up yet  
18 is the air quality that we're going to suffer. Lung  
19 disease is extra prevalent downwind of every dump in  
20 the country. They can look it up, you don't have  
21 to. They're paid to look it up, to know this.  
22 Nobody is saying anything about that.

23 In Lawrence Township we're downwind  
24 here of Clearfield County. You will die of lung  
25 cancer if this guy here puts his shit dump in our

1 community. I'm telling you. He doesn't care and  
2 his firm doesn't care about us. They're bringing  
3 the garbage from their community to our community.  
4 I couldn't even believe it. That's acceptable?

5           And the DEP, tax paid employees, think  
6 they can give the right and permit. Do you know who  
7 benefits from this? Tax paid employees who get all  
8 the money for their stupid salaries. This is  
9 ridiculous. It's corrupt and we're not going to  
10 stand for it in Clearfield County. The show of  
11 hands told you what to do. You're an employee. Do  
12 your jobs.

13           These public hearings are crazy. We  
14 are all in here telling you. Nobody's here giving  
15 you -. Yeah, there are three or four people paid to  
16 be here that were talking about the benefits.  
17 Obviously, when you're paid, you're benefitting from  
18 it. None of us are paid. Guess what? Get ready  
19 for lung cancer, because if this place comes in,  
20 it's going to kill a bunch of our people.

21           This is my son. He can say a few  
22 words. I don't know what he's going to say, he's  
23 the one that prepared the speeches. But he's the  
24 one who's going to be here some day to bury us and  
25 then start burying his own kids from his freaking

1 diseased landfill. It's not even our own garbage  
2 going in it, so what the heck?

3 MR. JACOB KENDRICK: All right.

4 My name is Jake, as we already said.  
5 And I am a child of this community. And to be quite  
6 frank, I'm not too happy about it. You know, I  
7 don't think any of us are, other than three or four  
8 people my dad mentioned.

9 And I know a lot of people. I'm not  
10 speaking with crisp facts and statistics and  
11 whatever. I'm speaking out of my heart and my love  
12 for my community and the people that are in it.  
13 See, I had a friend who was considering moving here.  
14 And do you think they're going to even bother  
15 considering it any more if there's going to be a  
16 garbage dump that's blowing downhill where they're  
17 going to live?

18 And I have a cousin, a family, our  
19 family, they live right up the road that the garbage  
20 dumps are going to be on. And if some people on  
21 those roads, you know those - you know how those  
22 garbage trucks are. It's not a question. And I  
23 care about my community, and I care about what we  
24 put in it. It's bad enough with all the fracking  
25 and stuff, the coal mining. But yeah. That's all I

1 can say. Thank you.

2 MS. LEHMAN: Okay.

3 Thank you to all of our speakers for  
4 your comments and thank you to everyone for coming  
5 out tonight and for staying with us through to the  
6 end of the hearing tonight. We really do appreciate  
7 your interest in the project. As a reminder,  
8 written comments on this application will be  
9 accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 3rd,  
10 2018.

11 If you wish to submit written comments  
12 or questions please take a handout from the sign-in  
13 table that has the details. And it also has the  
14 link to the DEP's webpage concerning the  
15 application information and correspondence between  
16 DEP and the applicant. Thank you.

17 This concludes tonight's public  
18 hearing. Have a safe trip home and good night.

19 \* \* \* \* \*

20 HEARING CONCLUDED AT 9:06 P.M.

21 \* \* \* \* \*

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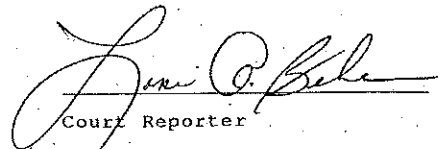
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, a public hearing held before Regional Director Kohl, was reported by me on 7/23/18 and that I, Lori A. Behe, read this transcript, and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

Dated the 16th day of August, 2018

  
Court Reporter  
Lori A. Behe