



PEORIA COUNTY

## Recycling & Resource Conservation

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### Memorandum

To: Peoria County Board Members  
Date: December 10, 2009  
From: Karen Raithel  
Subject: Response to Public Comment on the Proposed Expansion Contract

This document provides a summary of the issues submitted by public comment as it relates to the Landfill Agreement for the expansion facility. Prior to the approval by the Landfill Committee on November 18, 2009, several citizens expressed their issues regarding the proposed Landfill Agreement. Having submitted those questions in writing, staff along with the selected vendor, Peoria Disposal Company, prepared and distributed responses to those issues prior to the November 30, 2009 Health and Environmental Issues Committee. In addition to written submissions, many citizens representing local environmental groups expressed their issues during the public comment section of the Landfill Committee, and the November 18th and November 30th Health & Environmental Issues Committees.

Patrick Sloan of Foth prepared a detailed report, addressing several concerns of the public, which was distributed to all County Board members for their information. Foth's document was revised per County Board request to use layman's terms. This summary provides additional information to that document.

- *Is there a prohibition against Electric Arc Furnace Dust (EAF) or other wastestreams treated at the City/County Landfill.*

The City/County Landfill Committee adopted a special waste policy that formalizes the process. The Landfill Agreement mirrors this policy stating that all special waste and certified non-special waste must be approved by the Committee prior to acceptance at the facility.

When PDC submits their application to the County for local siting review, the county may impose conditions on approval of siting. The local siting review is solely the responsibility of the Peoria County Board.

- *Use of Perpetual Care Funds for Landfill No. 1*  
Peoria Disposal Company presented an initial phase and long-term services in their proposal. Regarding the initial work of Landfill No. 1 improvement, the Landfill Agreement states that the contractor shall complete activities on or before December 31, 2010; years prior to when the perpetual care fund will be initiated.

Specifically, language in the Escrow Agreement states that the (Landfill) Committee and PCCL (PDC) shall mutually agree upon a proposed work plan prior to performance. As Dave Barber (City of Peoria) mentioned, any expenses over \$50,000 will need to have approval by both the City Council and County Board.

- *Special Waste Fees*

The current vendor operating Peoria City/County Landfill #2 sets the tipping fees for special waste.

What is special waste? Special waste is the result of industrial process waste, pollution control waste, potentially infectious medical waste, and hazardous waste. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency oversees regulations of local landfills. Explanation of these types of wastes and examples are following:

- An *industrial process waste* is any liquid, solid, semisolid, or gaseous waste generated when manufacturing a product or performing a service. Examples include cutting oils, paint sludges, equipment cleanings, metallic dust sweepings, used solvents from parts cleaners, and off-specification, contaminated, or recalled wholesale or retail products.
- A *pollution control waste* is generated directly or indirectly when businesses remove contaminants from air, soil, or water. Examples include baghouse dust, landfill waste, scrubber sludge, and chemical spill cleaning material.

If industrial process waste or pollution control waste is any one of the following, it is a special waste:

- A liquid waste
- An asbestos waste regulated under the Clean Air Act
- A regulated polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) waste
- A delisted hazardous waste
- A characteristic hazardous waste treated or stabilized to be nonhazardous
- A waste material generated by shredding recyclable metals

(Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, <http://www.epa.state.il.us/small-business/special-waste/index.html>)

- *Relationship of the Transfer Station Option to the Expansion Facility*

The Landfill Agreement details the steps the vendor is required to make to site an expansion landfill facility. Should PDC not obtain local site approval, the waste needs of the community will be addressed by the contingency of a transfer facility. This places the responsibility on the vendor to provide our necessary waste service without delay. Should this be the case, the Landfill Committee, City and County would discuss options on how to proceed with the use of the property.

Staff commented on the above four items as we felt it represented the priority issues as they were the most commented topics by many citizens. Attached is a copy of Mr. Sloan's revised document which expands on the issues originally addressed.

Staff is appreciative of the contributions that our local citizens are providing so that our community realizes the benefits of a local waste option and reduces potential risks. Awareness of the operations of our facility hopefully will encourage the community to preserve our asset and incorporate basic actions to reduce the amount of material thrown away. We are at the starting point of a long road and have many steps to take during this process. Our goal is to prepare a framework that addresses our current needs and also protects future generations.