

## **Additions to Brief by Raye Thomas**

The following are additions to my written brief on the Bio-Physical Aspects of the Proposed Landfill Site in Alleyn and Cawood. I wish to make three points.

### **Point 1.**

In reference to the point where Grove Creek empties into the Picanoc:

This is also where treated leachate is planned to be emptied into the Picanoc. My colleagues and I have received additional information from a landfill operator. He stated that although the leachate from a landfill is treated, the resulting product is still equivalent to raw sewage. This is not attractive and the Picanoc would be at risk. At the Trail road dump site, the leachate is hauled to a treatment site where it is brought to the level of raw sewage, then goes on to a sewage treatment center for further treatment before it is released. No such secondary treatment is planned for the LDC landfill site.

LDC has made statements that the treated leachate would be clean and would not pollute the water of the Picanoc. Raw sewage emptying into the Picanoc would be totally unacceptable. Since the treated leachate is equivalent to raw sewage, then emptying treated leachate into the river is unacceptable.

### **Point 2**

During the course of the hearings, I also became aware of the following which is a contribution to the discussions regarding short-term and long-term solutions to waste management in the Outaouais.

During Phase 1 of the hearings, the representative of the MRC of Pontiac stated that there were no options available except the Alleyn and Cawood landfill to meet the December 2008 deadline for trench landfill closing. He was totally wrong. On the morning of June 13, I was at the planning committee meeting of the MRC of Pontiac. There is an offer on the table for the landfill in Lachute to take the garbage from Pontiac – a transfer site would be set up with the involvement of a local entrepreneur, and the merged garbage would travel to Lachute in only 2 trucks per day. The tipping fees would be tied to those charged to the City of Gatineau (currently \$32.00 per tonne). The total cost including trucking to Lachute, transfer fee and tipping fees would be between \$65.00 and \$70.00 per tonne. This is competitive.

Assuming that an extension to the December 2008 deadline is not possible then a 3 year (or at most a 5 year) contract with Lachute could be a short-term solution to the Pontiac's garbage, to be replaced at the end of the contract with a long-term solution. This 3 year period would allow time to view the plasma gasification plant in Ottawa and be satisfied of its performance. Both Lachute and the local entrepreneur who would set up the transfer station are agreeable to a three year contract. Several of the members of the MRC Pontiac planning

committee expressed the opinion that plasma gasification is the long term solution for waste.

Note that Plasco has offered to install plasma gasification plants in the Outaouais at no cost to the municipalities. Tipping fees of \$53.00 per tonne have been offered subject to the price received from sale of electricity – the cost to get garbage to a nearby plant would be less than the cost to transport to Lachute. So there are options available, both short – term and long –term. *The 3 year Lachute solution allows time for sensible planning.*

There is absolutely no need for a new landfill site in Alleyne and Cawood, and it should not be allowed.

### **Point 3**

A third point stems from answers to questions submitted to the promoter concerning the potential for a good aquifer on the site. The answers to the questions had not been seen by me prior to the oral presentation. Nor had Mr. Gilles Fortin seen the answers. My interpretation of the answers is that both MDDEP and the promoter have agreed that the well selected for the pumping test was the wrong one, and that the pumping test should be repeated using one of the deep wells. I agree that this is the correct thing to do. Teknika say that they believe the results will not change the conclusions. This may prove to be true, but the fact that the proper test was not done initially is indicative of the lack of thoroughness of the studies.

Raye Thomas  
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