

To: Renée Poliquin
BAPE Secretariat
Bureau d'audiences publiques
sur l'environnement

FAX: (418) 643-9474

TITLE: Considerations regarding
the proposed technical
landfill site at
Danford Lake

From: Georgia West

Danford Lake, QC
J0X 1P0

My name is Georgia West. I speak, as well, for my husband Peter Kern. My solar home is located on the side of La Charité Hill in the municipality of Alleyn/Cawood. I look out to the west on a vast wilderness which includes O'Brien Mountain. I drink cold, untreated water from a deep well, breathe fresh air and am enjoying the many benefits of this spectacular location. I live directly down wind of the proposed landfill.

I believe that our greatest asset in Alleyn/Cawood is the wilderness which surrounds us, giving us clean air, fresh water and a recreational and spiritual sanctuary. The mega-dump, no matter how efficiently it is run and monitored, will destroy wilderness and damage surrounding wild lands and lives. It is too big for this vulnerable environment.

Knowing what we know about the acceleration and dangers of global warming due to the build up of CO_2 in the atmosphere I feel that it is irresponsible and immoral for us to consider trucking large amounts of garbage for long distances. The environmental expense in harmful emissions and noise pollution and the physical danger presented by overcrowded and undermaintained highways make this an untenable solution to our garbage disposal problems. Garbage must be dealt with as close to its source as possible.

If we were allowed to continue to use the existing Danford landfill site or a suitable, small new site we could put our energy into efficient, environmentally positive garbage management including state of the art recycling, composting, metal reclamation, antique restoration, controlled incineration, heat recapture, greenhouse operation or perhaps (like the people on Salt Spring Island, BC) a free store.

The new Donford Garbage Depot could be an example to small municipalities everywhere. It could complement rather than detract from its environment and would not compromise the Mount O'Brien Association's bid to achieve bio-protection for the surrounding area.

It would be good if a new coalition could be formed to get things started and to monitor progress. The existing landfill site has much to offer already. It is small, tidy, well run and has the beginnings of a good recycling operation.

And that leaves the money. The past hearings revealed that the mega-dump would generate about \$550,000.00 in revenue per year - as much as the municipality now receives in taxes. This should be weighed against the huge cost to our environment and the degradation of our enviably high standard of living.

If I were to double my present taxes I would still be paying 50% less than I was paying 25 years ago in the city. I would gladly do this if it would ensure the continuation of my present quality of life. And it would be well worth the extra dollars to be able to reassure Mr. Gilles Pelletier that he and others living in the Picanoe watershed can continue to safely drink untreated water from the river for years to come.