

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

FAX: (418) 643-9474

TITLE: Brief on the Proposed Project  
To Install an Engineered Landfill  
on the Territory of Alleyn & Cawood,  
MRC Pontiac, Quebec.

FROM: LINDA CRONK (proxy)

Danford Lake,  
Quebec, J0X 1P0

(FOR A GROUP OF LOCAL CITIZENS)

10 PAGES

BRIEF FROM A GROUP OF LOCAL CITIZENS FOR THE BAPE HEARINGS ON  
THE PROJECT TO INSTALL AN ENGINEERED LANDFILL ON THE TERRITORY  
OF ALLEYN AND CAWOOD, MRC PONTIAC, QUEBEC.

Dear Madame Chairwoman and Mr. Commissioner;

We are a group of citizens who are either fulltime taxpayers and residents of Danford Lake, former residents who have cottages in Alleyn and Cawood, or who live near Danford Lake in the municipality of Kazabazua. Many of us were born and brought up in Danford Lake and can trace our roots back four generations.

We are ordinary people who live here quietly. Some of us cannot stand here tonight because of disability, illness or travel. Our names are Annie Peck, Martin Heeney, Beverley Heeney, Leslie Beaudoin, Gaston Beaudoin, Marion Emery, Mary Peck, Dennis Cochrane, Brian Peck, Rhea Rooney, and Emilie Larocque. Linda Cronk will read this for us. <sup>RAULINE CONNOLLY,</sup>

There is no question that our concern about the proposed megadump arises because it will destroy our backyard. We live downstream and downwind of the proposed site and have immediate worries of contaminated water reaching our wells, and foul odours or even toxic air drifting over our village. We know that in other places people have been forced to evacuate the area due to toxic fumes, or are being brought bottled water to use. This, for us, is just unacceptable, going against our whole way of life.

This area has always been an unspoiled paradise, full of deer, and other wildlife, fish, wild nuts and berries and other fruits. We and our ancestors before us have lived off this land, and canned the meat, fish, and fruit for winter use.

To a person casually passing through Danford Lake, the impression is likely of a tiny cluster of houses in the middle of nowhere. To us these tracts of bush are NOT nowhere. So many here know the bush, the lakes, streams and rivers like the back of their hands. The proposed dump site IS our backyard. We've hunted here including at the dump site all our lives. The Picanoc River is where we go to fish and relax. "Going back to the river" is a commonly heard phrase. We worry that the deer and fish will feel the effects of contaminated water first.

When M. Rouleau's expert talked about using rat poison around the perimeter of the dump area to deal with the rat problem, we wondered what other innocent wildlife that would destroy? Of course, planning to use that measure is confirmation that there would be a rat problem.

The increased traffic is another grave concern. Our safety will be threatened on Highway 301 right in Danford Lake. Right now, large trucks rarely observe the speed limit in the village. There is a steep hill, Ferguson's hill, at the west end of town that most trucks hate to start to climb at a lowered speed, especially in winter. The promoter told us initially that many of the trucks coming would be "his trucks" and he would

enforce the speed limit in the village for all of his trucks. However, we notice that when asked about spills of garbage from trucks onto the highway, his response recently has been that it is not his responsibility as he would be the landfill operator, and the trucking company would be responsible for the cleanup of spills. We don't see how the promoter could assume responsibility in the speed limit problem either. Highway 301 is our main street. Children routinely walk or bicycle along it in town, elderly and disabled people ride their riding lawnmowers from place to place along it. It is already very dangerous for people pulling into traffic in their cars.

Many of us live on this highway and our houses are as close as 30 feet from the road. Indoors we have to pause in telephone conversations until a logging truck has gone past. Drywall screws routinely work loose, windows rattle, houses shake when trucks roll by. It is such a relief when the roads close for the Spring thaw.

Then there are the times when we travel Highway 105 to go to Hull or Ottawa: for work, medical appointments, to buy groceries or things that we can't purchase here, to go to a movie. Already every time we travel that highway we take a huge risk. It's a way of life here. We've all been touched by trauma and tragedy on Highway 105. Logging trucks can choose whether or not to drive during a blizzard or icy conditions. Can a garbage truck? We cannot stand any more increase of truck traffic, not to mention the litter and smell they would generate.

Our third concern about this project is the manner in which it was presented to the community and the aggressive tactics to push it ahead despite our opposition.

The mayor and the building inspector introduced and promoted the promoter, who met with citizens only as long as no significant opposition was voiced. We initially approved what was presented to us in a letter from the mayor, namely that the old dump would be cleaned up and a new modern dump would be created with long needed attention to recycling. We became uneasy and cautious when it was finally revealed that it would be a huge regional dump. When residents and ratepayers asked worried questions, the promoter became unavailable and the mayor refused to answer, saying "Wait for the studies", "We'll have to consult our lawyer", "You can ask that at the BAPE", and finally no response at all, just "Next question".

We proceeded, with the Coalition's help, to do some research and in finding out more about Engineered Landfills we became opposed to such a project. The mayor and some councilor's anger and refusal to answer our questions raised more 'red flags' and led us to mistrust the mayor, some councilors, and the promoter. Rumours flew and to put an end to them some villagers presented a letter to the councilors and mayor, asking the mayor to also answer for the administration staff. These letters regarding benefits and conflict of interest were signed promptly and returned to us by only two councilors. The others that were asked, reacted in anger, refusing to sign such a letter. {See appendix 1} We could only wonder why?

The mayor and councilors consistently refused to meet with concerned citizens one on one or in a group, treated ratepayers as nuisances and refused to grant increased numbers of ratepayers access to council meetings. The citizens requested documents in order to do their research. They were denied and the Coalition lawyer had to travel to Danford Lake to the Municipal Office to ask for them. The Director General even withheld the documents from him. M. Rouleau was seen on October 11, 2006 using the main Municipal Office computer to which the rest of the ratepayers have no access, since it holds all Municipal accounts and information. (SEE APPENDIX 2)

The mayor aborted the Public Consultation process started April 3, 2006 and, without warning, took the project out of the municipality's hands and turned it over to the MRC. This dashed all hopes of a referendum and we came to feel betrayed. During the question and answer phase of the hearings, it became obvious that that betrayal was fostered from higher government levels. The mayor, meanwhile, keeps insisting that his community supports the project, making us feel like we don't count and that we are not heard. The frustration level is high! The community has been split down the middle and much tension, hurt and fear has resulted among neighbours, friends and families. Environmental Management Committee representatives tell elderly people that they will make sure that the person will be protected. It makes the recipients of these telephone calls wonder what they need to be protected from. Other intimidation tactics have been tried.

This is a terrible thing to have happen here, in a village that used to be known throughout the region for its hospitality and harmony. No amount of money brought in by this project can repair the damage done or bring Danford Lake back to what it was.

We definitely do not want to have this project approved. In Danford Lake there has been a tradition of handing down our homes and properties to our children and grandchildren. We want to leave a legacy to them of something just as clean and peaceful as we have enjoyed. We feel that the promoter does not have the best interests of the area at heart and we simply cannot trust anymore.

Through our research we have learned about more modern ways to deal with garbage and actually make something useful out of it – energy for electricity. We support win-win technologies like high- efficiency incineration and plasma gasification and strongly suggest that all waste management decisions be put on hold until results are known from the new plasma gasification facility at Ottawa.

Use of modern technologies make a site much safer, smaller, non-polluting and so much more acceptable to the host municipality. This is the way of the future, what we want to leave to our children. Please recommend that no more certificates for new landfills or for expansions of existing landfills be issued. Live up to Quebec's claims of being an environmental leader. Thank you for listening to us.

Annie Peck Schroeder

Danford Lake, Que. JPX 1PO

Annie Schroeder

Martin Heeney

Danford Lake, Que. JOX 1PO

Martin Heeney

Leslie Beaudoin

Danford Lake, Que. JOX 1PO

Leslie Beaudoin

Gaston Beaudoin

Danford Lake, Que. JOX 1PO

Gaston Beaudoin

Marion Wilson Emery

Danford Lake, Que. JOX 1PO

Marion Wilson Emery

Mary Peck Beaudoin

Danford Lake, Que., JOX 1PO

Mary Peck Beaudoin

Brian Peck

Kazabazua, Que., JOX 1XO

Brian Peck

Rhea Rooney

Kazabazua, Que., JOX 1XO

Rhea Rooney (Peck)

Emilie Monette Larocque

Danford Lake, Que., JOX 1PO

Beverley Heenev

Danford Lake, Que., JOX 1PO

*Denis Cochrane*  
DENIS COCHRANE

PAULINE CONNOLLY

DANFORD LAKE  
QUE. JOX 1PO

www.danford.com  
MEGADÉPÔTOIR  
MEGADUMP

Coalition contre le mégadépotoir de Danford  
*Coalition Against Danford Mega-dump*  
C. P. 911, Danford Lake (Québec) J0X 1P0

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March 28, 2006

Ricky Lafleur

Dear Mr. Lafleur:

As you are undoubtedly aware, the continuing public debate about the regional landfill proposal has generated a great deal of controversy, and many rumours, some of which are harmless, but some of which are disturbing. Among the latter are allegations that some members of the council and employees of the Municipality have received or have been promised jobs, financial benefits, or contracts relating to the landfill project.

To avoid any further innuendo that may tarnish reputations, we are asking you, the other individual members of council and the Mayor on his own behalf, and on behalf of Municipal employees, to state in writing, and for the record:

- Any personal or financial interest, present or future, direct or indirect that you may have with any person or corporation having, or seeking, a contract or agreement with the Municipality related to the landfill project, and
- Any benefits of any kind you or your immediate family have received, have been promised, or which have been suggested to you, relating to any matter relevant to the landfill project which has been submitted for your decision or consideration as a member of Council.

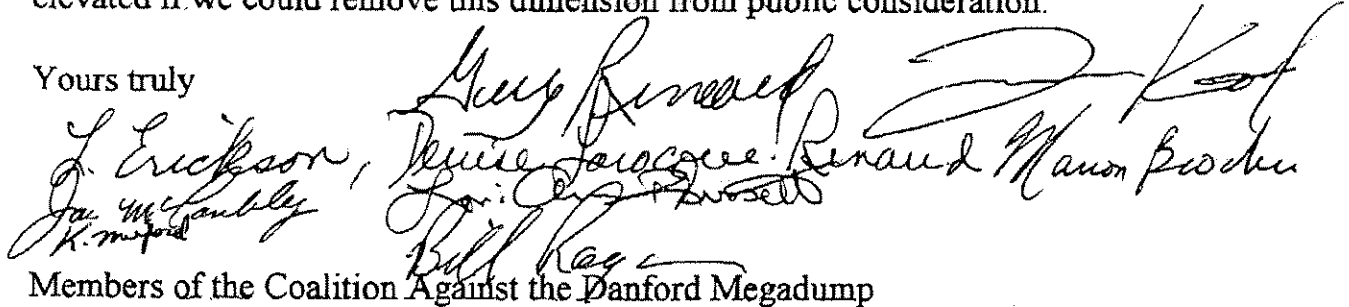
The intent here is not to question anyone's integrity, but simply to clear the air by reassuring opponents of the landfill project that their municipal

council members do not now, and will not in the future, receive any undeclared benefits from this project that would not also be received by all other citizens of the Municipality.

For the sake of simplicity, we include below two statements. We ask that you sign one of the statements and return this letter to us.

We hope you agree that the level of the discussion on this project could be elevated if we could remove this dimension from public consideration.

Yours truly


  
 L. Erickson, Mike Jaccaree, Renaud, Hanson, Proctor,
   
 Jan. McCauley, Lori G... Russell,
   
 H. ... Bill Kay

Members of the Coalition Against the Danford Megadump

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*I have no personal or financial interests, as described on page 1 of this letter, in the landfill. There are not now, and will not be in the future, any benefits as described on page 1 of this letter, related to the landfill project that will be received by me or my immediate family*


  
 signature

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*I have personal or financial interests, or will receive benefits, as described on page 1 of this letter, related to the landfill project, as follows:*

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signature





Nério De Candido

February 24, 2006

« BY FAX & BY MAIL »

Mr. Joseph Squitti, Mayor  
Municipality of Allevyn & Cawood  
10, Jondee Road  
Danford Lake, Allevyn & Cawood (Quebec)  
J0X 1P0

COPY

Dear Sir:

On February 23, 2006 I attended at your municipality's offices, along with one of my colleagues, in order to consult the planning by-laws. This was made necessary by the fact that previous requests for these documents made by some of my clients had apparently been rejected.

Furthermore, there was a sense of urgency as the next MRC Pontiac meeting, as you well know, will be held next February 27, and we were told these by-laws might be tabled, or their contents discussed.

To say we were made to feel unwelcome would be an understatement. Your Building Inspector repeatedly tried to intimidate me, threatened to call the police because he did not like my attitude, eventually called Municipal Affairs (for whatever reason and purpose still escapes me) and then put his hand on my forearm.

Your Secretary-Treasurer, while initially reluctant, eventually did provide us with access to certain documents.

However, as for the by-laws that apparently contain changes to the zoning to allow the landfill site project to proceed, she initially claimed that she had no copies as they had been forwarded to the MRC, but she eventually conceded that she had them but that she could not or would not let us consult them.

With all due respect, there is no valid reason to refuse us access to these documents.

Consequently, please be advised as follows:

177 Gamelin, Gatineau, QC J8Y 1W1

1. We are formally asking for a copy of all by-laws that may change or affect current zoning that may be tabled or discussed at the MRC Pontiac meeting of February 27, 2006. If we do not receive them in a timely fashion we will file a formal access to information request;
2. If any decisions are made February 27, 2006 at the MRC Pontiac meeting that affect zoning we will seek relief from the courts as we have not been given reasonable notice of any Notice of Motion or By-law that might affect current zoning;
3. Henceforth, we will direct all inquiries or requests to the attention of the Secretary-Treasurer, as we did on February 23, 2006. We fail to see why other municipal officers, such as the Building Inspector, have any say in what we are entitled to receive or have access to;
4. We will not tolerate any intimidation, explicit or implied, from any municipal officers or employees;
5. A proper apology is expected from your Building Inspector;

We have tried to execute our mandate in a courteous and polite manner.

We expect the same.

Yours very truly,

*Nério De Candido*  
NDC/1

**COPY**

- N.B. Please inform your Building Inspector that "mon pit" is not an appropriate way to address someone.
- C.C. Ms. Kim Cartier-Villeneuve  
Me Michel Lafrenière  
Mr. James Simpson  
Mr. Pierre Ricard

**NDC**