

Brief for the BAPE hearings on the proposed Danford Lake Engineered Landfill

Dear Madame Chairwoman and Mr. Commissioner:

My name is Ricky Lafleur, I am a rate payer of Danford Lake. I was born and raised in Danford, I live on Jinglestown Road that is 1 ½ miles from Danford. I own 358 acres that is bounded by the Picnoc River. My family and I are building a cottage 24x24 with a upstairs at the river. This is were our children and I love to be and we hope to pass it on to our children. My wife and I have grown up here fishing, hunting and biking; now we are doing this with our children. I am also a councilor in Alleyn and Cawood for 5 ½ years. I have been on the council since they started this project. At first I was for the project that was presented because the promoter made it sound safe and a good opportunity for the community. Then over time I started to have my doubts about bring the landfill here. With more research it became clearer that it was unsafe. The most worrying thing is that the water table is going to be polluted; also the traffic scares me because I timed it in the busy season Jan. to March, and we had a logging truck pass every 2 to 4 minutes in front of 57 highway 301. I also drive a logging truck in my business and almost every day there is close calls with the traffic. As a councilor since Dec. 2005 I have seen growing opposition at every council meeting. The mayor refused to answer any questions that adding to the frustration. He wouldn't allow any the councilors answer any questions of the landfill site, as soon as the rate payers would ask about the landfill site he would cut them off. Even when there were 100 people there he only allowed 20 minutes questions on the landfill site which he would not answer. That was a big factor when the community split. It was at several council meetings that the mayor had said we would be sued if we back out of the commitment to the promoter, and it would bankrupt the Municipality.

I became opposed to the project when I realized the size and where it was going to be, and all the garbage from so many Municipalities, and the different types not just household garbage. The ground is a very poor sand and gravel which will drain all the toxic leachate into the surrounding wet lands. The smell worries me because I have a cottage that is only 2 miles down the river from the landfill and 85% of the time the wind always comes from that direction.

Now that we have modern technology I don't agree with creating a landfill to add more green house gasses to the atmosphere. Why don't the investors put in plasma gasification or a high efficiency incinerator instead of a landfill. I do not agree that there was no comotation for this project, there should have been more bids brought in for a landfill or other technology. No the authorization should not be granted. I believe that the Ministry of Environment should delay the dead line for garbage solutions for Quebec until the new plasma plant in Ottawa has a chance to prove itself.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Ricky Lafleur

