

**BUREAU D'AUDIENCES PUBLIQUES
SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT**

PRESENT:

Ms. CLAUDETTE JOURNAULT, Chair

Mr. DONALD LABRIE, Commissioner

**PUBLIC HEARING
PROJECT TO ESTABLISH A
TECHNICAL LANDFILL SITE AT DANFORD LAKE
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALLEYN-et-CAWOOD**

FIRST PHASE

VOLUME 1

Hearing held May 15, 2007, 19 h
Centre de ski Mont Sainte-Marie
160, chemin de la Montagne
Lac Sainte-Marie

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MS. CLAUDETTE JOURNAULT,
THE CHAIRWOMAN:

5 (Translation) Ladies and gentlemen, good evening; welcome to this public hearing. My name is Claudette Journault, and I was named - I was appointed by the Chairman of the BAPE, the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement, Mr. William Cosgrove, to chair this commission. The commission is also made up of Mr. Donald Labrie, a Commissioner.

10 Mr. Labrie and myself have taken the oath before a Superior Court Judge here in Quebec, and we have the powers of an inquiry commission. We are committed to abiding by the code of ethics of members of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement. This code exists to ensure transparency, impartiality, and neutrality on the part of the commission.

15 We have been charged with fulfilling the mandate that was given to the BAPE by the Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, Ms. Lynne Beauchamp, and I'd like to read to you this mandate:

20 *"Mr. Chairman: As the Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, and by virtue of the powers granted to me by the third paragraph of Section 31.3 of the Act on Quality of the Environment, I give the mandate to the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement to hold public hearings to deal with the project to establish a technical landfill site at Danford Lake in the municipality of Alayn-and-Cawood by LDC Gestion et services environnementaux and to report back to me with its findings and analysis. The mandate of the BAPE will start as of the 15th of May, 2007".*

25 Now, the BAPE's mission is to inform and consult the population in order to provide to the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks adequate information to make a decision on certain projects with a view to supporting sustainable development.

30 In this regard, the notion of environment used by the BAPE is somewhat broad and complies with the one used by the higher courts, which therefore includes the biophysical, social, economical, and cultural aspects.

35 We will be analyzing this project together using the framework for the assessments of the impact on the environment. And in the context of this procedure, a proponent who wants to develop a project must first file a notice with the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, and the Minister then sends out a directive to specify the nature and the scope of the impact assessment study.

40 And all of this has been done to date. The proponent has carried out an impact study,

which has been sent to the Minister, and the Ministry has deemed that this study does answer the questions that were asked.

45 Now, this study was also done in cooperation with different departments, government departments, that are in charge of managing some of the related issued that had to do, therefore, with the project that is being studied here.

50 Now, all of this, as I said, has been done already. And once the study has been deemed receivable, in other words, that it does adequately meet or answer the questions asked by the Minister, then, afterward, the said Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks gives a mandate to the BAPE to hold an information period to consult with the public. This was done from the 6th of February to the 23rd of March, 2007. And during this period, any person, group, or municipality that wanted to do so could ask for public hearings to be held.

55 Now, during this period, there were one hundred and eighty-nine (189) requests for holding such a public hearing. Therefore, the Minister has given the BAPE a mandate to hold a public hearing. And, of course, I've just read to you what this mandate is all about, and we're starting our proceedings here today on the 15th of May.

60 Now, the regulatory context in which we're working specifies that these mandates must last no more than four (4) months. Therefore, the President of the BAPE must be sending the report to the Minister no later than September 15th. The Minister will then have, at most, sixty (60) days to make the report public.

65 Now, in parallel with this public part of the proceedings, which, of course, is being held by the BAPE and which you are participating in, the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks is also carrying out its own analysis and is working on a report for the Minister.

70 Based on these two (2) documents, a BAPE's report and the technical report from the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, the Minister will then come to certain conclusions and prepare a decree that will be sent to the Ministers, to Cabinet, and Cabinet will be making the decision either to authorize the project or to reject it, possibly with conditions or without any further conditions.

75 Now, the commission, this commission, is not a decision-making body. Its mandate consists in relaying to the political decision makers an assessment of the project in light of the opinions expressed by residents or the organizations participating in the public hearing.

80 We would like to mention that this hearing is, of course, public, and this is a very important moment for you to seek out information. Therefore, it is crucial that residents should be

participating in this hearing in order to seek out information.

85 There will be two (2) parts to this hearing starting this evening deals with questions. The purpose here is to allow residents and the commission to gather all of the relevant information to get a proper understanding of the project and its impacts.

90 So, you will have an opportunity to ask all of the questions that you wish to ask to the proponent and the resource persons to understand what is at stake, and to see whether or not the project has been optimized, and whether or not it is in accordance with your vision of development for your region based on the method which I will be telling you about later on.

95 So, this is the moment for you to ask questions without expressing opinions or taking a stand on the project itself. That will be done later on.

So, this evening, we'll start the sessions, which will also be held tomorrow as of one (1:00) p.m. and tomorrow evening at seven (7:00) p.m. right here.

100 Later on, we'll be holding further sessions in Gatineau, Thursday, as of two (2:00) p.m. in the basement of Saint-Jean-Marie-Vianney Cathedral at 160 Bruchési Street in Gatineau. Another session will be held at seven (7:00) p.m. Thursday evening, and there might be an additional session Friday morning at the very same place, depending on the needs expressed by the public and the commission.

105 Now, the second part of the public hearing will be an opportunity to table briefs and to do oral presentations. The goal then would be for you to express your opinions on the project. We'll then be hearing all the people who want to be heard. What is important then is for you to register ahead of time with the commission's secretariat, so that we have adequate time available for your presentation.

110 The second part of the hearing will be held as of the 12th of June, seven (7:00) p.m., in the Heritage Room in the municipality of Low and will go on in the next two (2) days in that very same municipality or in other municipalities, depending on where people come from who want to express an opinion and depending on how many people want to express their opinion.

115 You are asked to inform Ms. Renée Poliquin at the secretariat as soon as possible of your intent to participate in that second part of the hearing. You will have until Friday, June 8th, to send us your brief or at least to tell us that you intend to make an oral presentation. Prior tabling of the briefs allows the commission to have enough time to be informed of the substance of these briefs, and to adequately prepare for the second part of the hearing in order to be able to discuss your perception of the project with you.

120 Now, on the table at the back of the room, you will find documents that will inform you in

125 terms of how to write such a brief, but it's quite simple, actually. It's just a matter of telling us why
you're in favour or opposed to this project and why, and the same would hold true if you intend to
give us an oral presentation. It's not very rigid. It's quite simple, quite accessible, and you are
invited to participate in large numbers.

130 Following the second part of the public hearing, the commission will, of course, be writing its
own report, and it could still intervene with the proponent or the resource persons or other actors, but
that would then be done in writing, because the commission, of course, will not be meeting with the
proponent or the resource persons, neither of these actually, outside the public hearings. Everything
will be done publicly with you.

135 So, then, the commission is supported by a whole team made up of, to our left, Ms.
Monique Lajoie and Mr. Jean Roberge. They are the analysts with the commission; at the back of
the room, Ms. Renée Poliquin, who is the coordinator for the commission's secretariat. So, you may,
of course, contact Ms. Renée Poliquin at any time during regular office hours or using the Internet, if
you have any questions as to the commission's work and how you can participate.

140 There's also Mr. Jean-Sébastien Fillion, a communications consultant, who will be in charge
of the register amongst other things, and Ms. Louise Marois working for the secretariat.

145 We also have support on the part of the Minister of Government Services for the technical
organization of the meeting and for logistics. Mr. Jean. Métivier is in charge of the technical side of
things. And Mr. Martin Lajoie is in charge of sound, and he's supported by Mr. Georges Leclerc.

150 Ms. Lise Maisonneuve and Ms. Annagret Rinaldi are the stenotypists, the official
stenotypists for the commission. So, everything that is said here publicly is being recorded, and the
transcripts of the hearings will be made available in the week following the public hearing, as well as
on the Internet sites and in the different consultation centres that you will be informed about later on.
They are actually on the screen right now. You have the addresses of these centres on the screen.

155 So, Mr. Denis Rouleau is the spokesperson for LDC Gestion et services environnementaux,
the proponent for the project. Mr. Rouleau will have an opportunity later on to introduce his team
and to talk about the project.

160 In addition, in order to answer your questions, the commission has asked many
representatives, spokespersons of different government departments and different organizations, to
be here. They'll be here this week, and they can also be reached over the phone. So, I will now ask
these people to introduce themselves, these spokespersons, and to tell us who is with them by their
side. So, for the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks...

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

165 (Translation) Thank you, Madam Chair; I'm Jean Mbaraga. I'm the spokesperson for the
Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, and the coordinator of the
project, this project. I'm here with, right behind me, Michel Bourret, who is a specialist in hydrology.
He works at the residual matters sector. There are people from the Ministry of the Environment as
well. And as the chairperson has told us, if need be, we can also contact our specialist in Quebec
170 City to answer your questions, thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you; the spokesperson for the municipality of Alayn-and-Cawood.

175

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

(Translation) Good evening, thank you, Madam Chair; I'm Kim Cartier-Villeneuve
representing the municipality of Alayn-and-Cawood. I'm here with Carl Mayer representing the
180 mayor, as well as Alderman Alain Peck and Charleen Scharf.

180

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you, Madam; the regional municipality council, Pontiac.

185

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

(Translation) Good evening, Madam Chair, thank you; my name is Pierre Duchesne. I'm in
charge of land development in this municipality. We have in this room Mr. Brian Adam, Mayor of
190 l'Île-aux-Allumettes and the Mayor of Mansfield-et-Pontefract, Mr. Richard Romain.

190

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you; the Ministry of Natural Resources and Fauna.

195

MR. LAURENT MASSICOTTE:

(Translation) Good evening, Madam Chair, my name is Laurent Massicotte from the Ministry
of Natural Resources and Fauna in Gatineau. I'm the Regional Director here. I am here with two (2)
200 colleagues: one who deals with forests, Mr. Denis Bouillon, and Patrick Autotte is here as well with
us.

200

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

205 (Translation) Thank you; the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

MR. LOUIS-MARIE POISSANT:

210 (Translation) Yes, good evening, Madam Chair, I represent the Ministry of Health and Social Services. I'm Louis-Marie Poissant. I'm here with Hédi Abdellaoui and Annie-Claude Bourgeois, who could help me.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

215 (Translation) Thank you; the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Regions.

Mr. BERNARD CHARTRAND:

220 (Translation) Good evening, Madam Chair, welcome in the Outaouais, I'm Bernard Chartrand. I'm an advisor in regional development with Municipal Affairs.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

225 (Translation) Thank you; in the room, we also have a spokesperson for the La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau regional county municipality, Ms. Catherine Lussier, in charge of environmental hygiene, good evening; the Des-Collines-de-l'Outaouais regional municipality council, Mr. Patrick Laliberté, he's in charge of the environment; the Ministry of Public Security, Ms. Daniele Meilleur, good evening; the City of Gatineau, Mr. Jacques Nadeau, Director for the Environmental Services. Over the phone, we also have Recyc-Québec, and these people can answer some of the questions, if
230 need be.

235 Now, as to the way this evening will unfold, I'd like to tell you how we will do things. First of all, the applicants will have to explain the motivations for their application. Since there are a hundred and eighty-nine (189), we've asked them to regroup themselves for this presentation. So, a few of them will introduce their observations, following which the proponent will introduce his team and explain his project. There will be a twenty (20) minute period to have this presentation made.

240 Following this presentation by LDC Gestion et services, we will have a break. And during this break, the register will be opened. You can register, if you have any questions you would like to ask either to the proponent or to the resource persons. We will also invite people by their number, a number given in the register. The questions will be addressed to us, and we will then redistribute these questions to the resource persons or the proponent.

245 One question per intervener is allowed. However, you will be able to re-register again following that. This is to facilitate and foster a larger number of citizens' questions. So, I would invite you to register at the break.

250 We would ask you to limit the preamble to your question, and only preambles that are necessary to the understanding of the questions will be authorized. We would ask you not to state an opinion on the project. This will be part of the second phase in June.

255 For those people who are registered for tonight's session, should we be unable to hear your question, you will either have to come back to an ulterior session. You will be called according to your number. And if you cannot come to another session, you can either send your question in writing and get an answer or give a proxy to someone who could ask the question in your place. You could write your question, give it to the commission's secretariat, and the secretariat will broach it during another session.

260 The commission, as well, can intervene to get additional information at any time. As I said, all questions have to be addressed to me and the same thing for the answers.

265 In order to ensure respect of all participants, no demonstration, approval, or disapproval will be permitted. No more will derogatory comments, slanderous comments or scornful attitudes be allowed. The best way to foster a healthy debate is to follow the BAPE's procedural rules. Questions are allowed, but not accusations. Respecting these rules is the best way to avoid actions for damages.

270 Should the answers to your questions not be available immediately, we will ask the resource persons or the proponent to tell us when these answers will be available as much as possible during these sessions. However, if it is not possible, as early as possible next week, and this information will be made public in the reference centres and on the web site.

275 We've referenced these consultation or reference centres. They're in the Aléyn-and-Cawood municipality in the Bowater Library and at the municipal office of Kazabazua. There are also two (2) permanent centres: one in Quebec and one at the central library of Université du Québec à Montréal. You can also inquire with the secretariat, if you have any questions on these centres.

280 The commission has a web site, and you will have this address on the screen shortly: www.bape.gouv.qc.ca.

Finally, we'd like to underscore that the BAPE has a statement of services for its citizens. It also provides a questionnaire that allows you to assess the quality of our services. In order to help us better serve you, we would ask you to please fill out this questionnaire.

285

And at this point, we've come to the presentation of the grounds of the application. We'd like to invite the representative of the Association for Lake Georges Cawood. For the record, every time you come to the mike, you must give your name, so that we can write your name down in the proper space in the record.

290

MR. GERRY TOOMEY:

295

(Translation) Good evening, my name is Gerry Toomey, and I'm the Vice-President of the Association of Lake Georges Cawood. And I would like to briefly explain a few reasons why our association is very much interested in these public hearings.(End of translation.

I will be moving on in English, because our letter was drafted in English.

300

This letter was written by Glen Bailey, the President of the - of our association, who was not able to come this evening. I'm going to read an abbreviated version of the letter addressed to the Minister of the Environment:

305

"This proposal for an engineered landfill operation has generated much discussion among our members, and I and other members of the executive of the association have sought to provide objective information and assessments by which members can make an informed decision as to the merits of the proposal and the possible risks. We believe there is a need for more public consultation, so that a clearer picture of the implications can be gained. Therefore, on behalf of the members of the association, I am requesting that BAPE conduct full public hearings on this proposal.

310

The region and, indeed, all of Quebec must get its act together quickly in the area of waste disposal and recycling. The government's 2008 deadline is looming, as we all know, but we need a socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable solution. So, in addition to wanting to understand the risks and benefits of the proposed engineered landfill, we will be very interested to learn of the potential for other solutions which may be more environmentally sound such as new plasma gasification technology being applied in Ottawa. The BAPE hearings need to give everyone a reasonable opportunity to become better informed as well as to express their opinion on these issues. Your sincerely, Glen Bailey".

315

Thank you.

320

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

325

(Translation) We would now invite the spokesperson of a citizens' group, Ms. Catherine Timmons. Is Ms. Timmons in the room? No, we would then invite a representative of the Association of Shoreline Residents of Danford Lake and Surrounding Lakes. One or a few representatives are invited. Would they like to present their application? Are there any

representatives of this association in the room? Some said that they would prefer to come to another session. We would then invite the representatives of the Coalition Against the Mega Landfill of Danford.

330 MR. ANDRE CARRIERE:

(Translation) Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen and commissioners, my name is André Carrière, and I'm the President of the Coalition Against the Danford Mega Landfill. We are a group of responsible citizens that are guided by clear objectives with regard to waste management in the greater Outaouais area. We believe that we are a credible organization, and that we are pragmatic.
335 (End of translation)

The coalition has spent considerable time, money, and person hours in researching waste management alternatives. We are committed to the following objectives. In our opinion, the waste management option to be selected must, one (1), be socially acceptable; two (2), cause the lowest possible health risks to society and the lowest negative impacts on the environment; three (3), consider waste as a valuable and useful resource rather than a problem to be buried in a remote location; four (4), result in the treatment of waste closest to where it is produced in order to minimize unsafe greenhouse gases resulting from excessive transportation distances, to maximize roadway security, and to minimize roadway nuisances and maintenance costs; and, five (5), be economically viable.
340
345

(Translation) Our research demonstrates that, contrarily to other alternatives, the mega landfill in Danford would not allow us to reach our - respect those objectives. We refute the argument according to which the provincial time line would give no other options in the short run than landfill.
350

Waste management is part of a long-term perspective and will have impacts on us for centuries to come. This is a decision that we are taking not only for our children, but as well for coming generations. It therefore must be well chosen and not compromise any of the objectives enumerated earlier.
355

Finally, we would ask that, during these hearings, we obtain answers to questions that have not yet been answered.
360

MS. MICHELE BORCHERS:

(Translation) Mme. Commissioner, Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen, good evening, my name is Michèle Borchers, and I am the Vice-President of the Coalition Against the Danford Mega Landfill. This coalition regroups more than four thousand (4,000) citizens that are against this mega landfill in the Danford Lake community. Many volunteers have worked on this file for two (2) years.
365

370 We asked public hearings, because the citizens are appalled at the lack of transparency, democracy, and the difficulties they have to access information, and this has been the truth for this project from the start. And our motivations also rely on the hope that we will get answers to our questions, long-standing questions.

375 We would like hearings also because we feel that urban waste does not have its place here in the wilderness. Urban waste doesn't belong in the wilderness. (End of translation.)

Mega dumps generate both chemically contaminated water and biogases such as methane, which is twenty-three (23) times worse than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas.

380 Our research has shown that geo-membrane liners used for landfills will not prevent leakage of untreated water into the ground water, then into the wetlands and streams close to the dump site, and eventually into the Picanoc and the Gatineau Rivers. The promoter's plan contains no remedial measures for this devastating eventuality.

385 Finally, a mega dump near the village of Danford Lake will have an enormous, enormous impact on the health, social, cultural, and economic aspects of the lives of anyone living here or coming here to enjoy the purity and the beauty of the area. The promoter's assessment that there will be no - that there will only be minimal impacts is the results of incomplete work. Thank you.

390 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you; we would now invite Mr. Renato Livinal to present the grounds for his application.

395 MR. RENATO LIVINAL:

(Translation) Good afternoon, Commissioners, ladies and gentlemen, good evening to all of you. (End of translation)

400 Thank you for the opportunity to express my motives to these public hearings. There is a letter which was public, which was sent to the Minister cabinet on the 29th of February, 2007, explaining my position as a developer of Lake Mijour Estate barely three (3) kilometres away from the proposed mega dump.

405 My motives are very simple: first of all, to protect my life saving which have been invested for - since 1987. That's point number 1.

Motive number 2 is to establish that the proposed LET project, even at its projected

410 stage, has caused my business a very major negative impact in that I cannot have any sales of the
property. No one will invest two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) in a chalet, four (4) season
chalet, beside a mega dump.

415 Point number 3 is to show that, contrary to the LET project, Lake Mijour Estate, in harmony
with the Mount O'Brien Association, which we have been working together since the year 2000 in
trying to promote and develop a natural park, will, in fact, do much better for the Danford Lake
community than the proposer proposed.

420 And point number 4 is to establish that the stronger economic development will result from
the Lac Mijour Estate, which will hold infinite and sustained employment for the regions as the
byproducts and so on.

So, those are essentially the major motives of my presentation. Thank you, Madam.

425 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Finally, we would invite the regional county municipality of Pontiac to appear.

MR. BRIAN ADAM:

430 (Translation) Mme. Chairperson, I appear here before you tonight in my capacity as the
deputy reeve of the regional county municipality of Pontiac, as well as Mayor of L'Ile-aux-Allumettes.
I will present a letter to you that was written by our Director General, Mr. André Cordeau, written to
Mr. Claude Béchard March 13th last:

435 *"Mr. Minister: The regional county municipality of Pontiac would like a public assessment of
the technical landfill in Danford Lake in the municipalities of Alleyn-and-Cawood and would like to
take part in a public hearing. The grounds for our application and our interest in the matter are the
following. The introduction of a technical landfill site could be a short-term solution to the elimination
of waste and, in fact, the fifty (50) or so landfill sites in the Outaouais area will be closed on January
440 1st, 2009, in accordance with the regulations on landfill sites and the incineration of waste. And the
alternatives especially for the RCM of Pontiac are non-existent. The TLS project in the municipality
of Alleyn-and-Cawood is part of the Pontiac regional county municipality. This project will have an
impact on the entire population, whether they are permanent residents or seasonal residents not only
in this municipality, but in all municipalities of the Pontiac RCM and many others in the Outaouais
445 region. The introduction of this TLS will have a significant impact on surrounding communities
environmentally, economically, and socially. Sincerely yours"*

Mr. Brian Adam.

450 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) And we will now move on to the presentation of the project. We would ask Mr. Denis Rouleau to introduce his team and then to present the project for the public hearing.

455 MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) My name is Denis Rouleau, and I am the C.E.O. of LDC. And to my right, I have Dr. André Poulin, engineer and technical advisor, project manager of Teknika HBA, and he is accompanied by his specialist team, Yves Gagnon, engineer, Patrice Bigras, geographer, Patrick Gagnon, engineer, Marc Drouin, engineer, Jean-François Mouton, forestry engineer, and Jacques Boilard, acoustical engineer, as well as André Guibord, communications expert.

We will introduce the project to establish a technical landfill site at Danford Lake in the municipality of Allevyn-and-Cawood. We will be making a presentation, including the presentation of the proponent, the justifications or grounds for the project, the history of our group, the characteristics and aspects of the site, the capacity of this technical landfill site, its integration in the environment, the environmental follow-up, the time lines, and, finally, our conclusions.

LDC Gestion et services environnementaux is a federal-chartered company belonging to four (4) partners in Gatineau and Ottawa. Its experience is as following. Three (3) partners own Cohen & Cohen, a recognized business in demolition and resale of used materials, as well as the use of used goods.

LDC has given itself the following mandate: to manage waste according to the following objectives, reuse, recycling, value-added, and elimination or disposal of waste.

The context for the project: The current situation for Outaouais is as following. There are no technical landfill sites or TLS here in Outaouais, nor are there any forecasted sites except for the ones we are presenting tonight. There is only one site in Déléage near Maniwaki that will close before 2009. Almost all the fifty (50) landfill sites in Outaouais will have to close before 2009.

The closest technical landfill site is found between a hundred and thirty-five (135) and five hundred fifty (550) kilometres of Gatineau in Lachute in the Laurentians area. Quebec's policy for waste management fosters regional treatment of waste.

On this map, there are triangles that identify the dumps that will have to close before January, 2009, and the star is the proposed technical landfill site in Danford Lake. The first line is sixty (60) kilometres, the second two hundred (200) kilometres. We're trying to demonstrate that the landfill site is found in the centre of the geographical area of Outaouais.

490

The rules on dumps and incineration imposes the closure of all sanitary dumps and dumps that are not in accordance with the rules before 2009. We would like to propose a technical landfill site that would meet all environmental requirements.

495

Now, the process: The process started in August, 2004, through discussions of the elected body of Pontiac and Alécyon-et-Cawood. There have been eighteen (18) briefings with local stakeholders, three (3) public sessions for information and consultation of the public, and an environmental committee was struck by the municipality of Alécyon-et-Cawood that is at the basis of the surveillance committee forecasted under the regulations.

500

The aspects of the site: The main selection criteria of the site were, first of all, openness of the host community, to find it outside of the agricultural areas that are protected by the Protection Commission of Quebec. And, as well, it had to be at a distance that was acceptable to the citizens and found near a large road at less than a hundred (100) kilometres of Gatineau. Alécyon-et-Cawood meets all the selection criteria.

505

Its location: The site is found in the municipality of Alécyon-et-Cawood on a lot that belongs to the Government of Quebec. And the Government of Quebec would agree through decree to sell this site.

510

A few advantages of this site. There are no houses found within two hundred (200) kilometres of this lot. There's direct access through Road 301, and an isolated lot that is found in-between mountains. In yellow here, you see where the landfill site would be within that proposed lot.

515

So, the project also had to be in line with the regulations on landfilling and the incineration of waste on the Quebec territory. And this site does have the minimum distance of one kilometre from any surface or ground water collection installations. It is also outside of the hundred (100) year recurrence flood risk zones. It's also outside the land movement risk zones, as well as outside the high aquifer potential zones. And it is well integrated within the surrounding environment.

520

Now, the site layout: Of course, the description of the TLS is provided. So, we're talking about a landfilled area of thirty-eight and a half (38.5) hectares with a double level protection lining system. We're also talking about a weighing station, which would have a scale and would have electronic controls.

525

There would be a garage and administration building, as well as a sampling system for biogas, liquid effluence, and ground water. There would be a leachate treatment station and, finally, a biogas collection pumping and elimination networks.

530 You can see here on the slide the typical cell composition, and this does comply with the regulations that apply here in Quebec.

535 Now, there is a description of the related equipment, namely a container park and waste treatment centre as well as a receiving and temporary storage of hazardous household waste, HHW. There would be a wood dryer for the energy - energetic recovery of part of the collected biogas, a bio-composting platform by the swathing of green residues and putrescible materials, a recyclable materials transfer centre, and a four (4) RD information and awareness centre.

540 You can see here on the slide the operating area. To the right, you have the landfill site itself, as well as some of the required infrastructures for operating the site to the left of the screen.

545 Now, on page 16, the entrance to the site, you have the different installations that are farther away from the site, and that is the balance, the scale, as well as the places where the residual matter will be sent, so, the control station and the scale.

550 Now, the estimated capacity for the TLS: So, total receiving capacity would be eight (8) million metric tons of residual waste after recycling. This is sufficient capacity to meet the disposal needs of the forty-nine (49) municipalities that are part of the RCM's in Pontiac, Collines-de-l'Outaouais, Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, as well as the City of Gatineau. Overall, the maximum estimated total is two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) metric tons per year in the mid and long terms.

555 Now, we have the environmental integration for the project. This kind of project will necessarily have an impact on the surroundings. This has to be assessed. We have to come up with mitigation measures in order to reduce the impacts.

560 Let's start by dealing with the quality of surface waters, in other words, the discharge of the treated effluent in the Picanoc River. The main mitigation measures in this case would be advanced leachate treatment sub-sector respecting the regulation of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, also a treatment process located in a building and, therefore, not impacted by weather conditions, management and monitoring of run-off waters on the sites, and we would have monitoring of the quality of treated waters according to the regulation that is at least once a week.

565 Let's also note that the Picanoc River's minimal annual flow is five hundred (500) times greater than the effluence design flow of three hundred (300) cubic metres a day.

570 The next slide, the quality of ground waters: We're looking here at the risk of leachate infiltration into the ground water table. The main mitigation measures in this instance, first, a double level protection lining system at the bottom and at the sides of the TLS, also the application of a quality control and assurance program for materials, and the way they are set up

on the site, regular monitoring of the quality of ground waters in wells to be dug around the TLS. Let's also mention that there is no drinking water well within two (2) kilometres of the site.

575 Now, as for noise, including at maximum tonnage in this case, so, sixty-one (61) trucks back and forth, overall one hundred and twenty-two (122) trips between Kazabazua and the entrance to the TLS per day, this is the estimated average, an increase of the noise to the tune of less than three (3) decibels along the roads because of additional trucking activities. The main mitigation measures in this case, first, respect of the speed limits by the truck drivers and awareness activities by the Sûreté Québec in terms of braking using the engines, and signalling on the road, on Road 301 at the
580 entrance to the site, MTQ's awareness to maintain the road in good condition, and trucks would be using the regional roads, that is, 105 and 301.

585 Now, air quality, so, the risk of fleeting emissions of biogas and scattering of papers and dusts, the main mitigation measures in this case are as follows: an active biogas collection system and its incineration and recovery.

590 The respect of standards from the new regulation respecting the quality of the atmosphere regarding the reduced sulphate phase, so, odour and methane, a biogas monitoring program based on the regulation, and the TLS is located two (2) kilometres from the closest summer cottages and residences. And there's also the mandatory daily coverings and the litter fence and the dust control device.

595 And during development and operation, there will be a loss of protected surfaces for the forest industry. And the main mitigation measures in this case, first, access to the hunting sites is maintained, and most parts of the timber cuts have been performed on this land, access to the site's access and bypass roads, and an agreement with the TSFMA managers for the implementation of operation or mitigation measures.

600 So, the end result, given the fact that the site is pretty isolated and that we have a lot of mitigation measures, the impacts of the project will be low to negligible.

605 Now, the environmental monitoring: The goal of this monitoring is to ensure the integrity of works as well as the respect of regulation, regulating standards, and requirements using samplings, qualified personnel, and a vigilance committee as well as a post-closure fund. There will be sampling of ground waters using nine (9) sampling wells dug around the site. There will be sampling of surface waters in ditches and sampling of the treated effluent.

610 This means that we'll be having a weekly control of the discharge quality and monitoring of the effluent flow, as well as biogas monitoring using the sampling wells, and there will be detection of gas inside the buildings.

There will be a vigilance committee as well as a post-closure fund, which will be at work

for, at minimum, thirty (30) years, as well as an emergency measures plan.

615 Now, the time line: Well, public hearings are now being held in the spring of 2007. A government decision is expected, we hope, by the fall of 2007, and a certificate of authorization request that could be sent in by the fall of 2007, therefore leading to prep works during the winter of 2008. And construction could then start in the spring of 2008, and the site could open the following summer or fall.

620 My conclusions now: A TLS would be in line with the new regulations in all regards, and it would meet a very important need for the region. It would have little impact on the surrounding environment, because the site is isolated. We have planned mitigation measures, and we would be having a vigilance committee.

625 This, of course, would create jobs and would have regional economic benefits through the purchase of goods and services, and we would ensure an adequate management of residual waste in the region for the upcoming decades based on the four (4) RD approach. Thank you, Mme. Chair.

630 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) I thank you. We will now be having a fifteen (15) minute break. The register is open. You are asked to put in your names. Thank you.

635 SHORT ADJOURNMENT

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

640 (Translation) The transcripts will be made available in both English and French in approximately one week's time, that is, a week after the public hearings. And so, we'll now start with Mr. Richard Romain, please, sir.

645 MR. RICHARD ROMAIN:

(Translation) Good evening, Mme. Chair, Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Richard Romain. I'm the Mayor of Mansfield-and-Pontefract, the largest municipality, or at least demographically, within the Pontiac RCM.

650 So, we ought to be closing down our dumping and ditches sites within a few months. We have a problem. We need to be eliminating this waste, and we must implement the PGMR action plan. So, my question is: Is it true that LDC is looking at building and operating a centre for residual waste, and if so, would you be willing to implement things or to operate it in 2008, this centre that would have transshipment activities?

655

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

660 (Translation) Yes, well, sir, can you show us a map with the area on it and show us the -
where your municipality is located or the gentleman's municipality is located and answer the
question, please?

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

665 (Translation) This municipality is approximately here, Mme. Chair, along Route 148 by the
Ottawa River, so, along Route 148 by the Ottawa River. So, if people drive along this road and then
Route 301, and both are Transportation Ministry's roads all the way to the TLS, this would be the way
the waste would go. And, yes, indeed, we do intend to be setting up a small transshipment centre
for the waste from the Pontiac RCM, and we do intend to be ready by 2008.

670 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you; Ms. Priscilla Latimer, please. Yes, Madam.

MS. PRISCILLA LATIMER:

675 My name is Priscilla Latimer, and I'm a permanent resident at Nia Lake in Alleyn-Cawood.
And since my husband and I have lived here, we have only seen one (1) or two (2) seagulls on the
lake or flying over it, very rarely, but one (1) or two (2). I would like to know if there are any risks that
these birds could greatly increase in number and contaminate our lake.

680

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Very well, thank you; Mr. Rouleau.

685 MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, I'll ask Mr. Patrice Bigras to field this question.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

690

(Translation) Please do use the microphone.

MR. PATRICE BIGRAS:

695 (Translation) Good evening, Mme. Chair; right now, there is no colony of gulls known to live
nearby the site at Danford Lake. And based on our studies and the studies we've consulted,

700 the closer colonies of these birds are around the Baskatong reservoir or along the Gatineau River. And so, there might be a certain migration of the gulls, but we expect that there will - we will scare them away. We'll be taking measures, if there are gulls on site, to make sure that there is no colony that sets up close by the site.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

705 (Translation) Now, does your company or does the consultant firm that is represented here with you, did any of you study any other technical landfill site, or, in the past, did you ever do this kind of work and study the evolution of the seagull colonies?

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

710 (Translation) I'll ask Mr. Poulin to answer this question, Madam.

MR. ANDRE POULIN:

715 (Translation) Well, yes, indeed, Mme. Chair, we have carried out a certain number of other projects in Quebec in terms of design and follow-up. I'm talking about landfill sites, of course. One has to understand that it was mostly sanitary landfill sites, as they were then known, and over the past five (5) or ten (10) years now, we've started developing technical landfill sites.

720 However, the follow-up that we did do for the sanitary landfill sites and, of course, given the mitigation measures, mostly the daily covering of these cells, and given the new techniques that we use to scare the birds away, many of these sites have actually modernized over time to make sure that these birds do not start colonizing the area.

725 And we've seen that, over the years, these techniques that are used to scare the birds and the adequate covering of the grounds daily do allow us to control the risk of proliferation of these birds that eat waste.

730 And there were certain sites run by some of our clients that have come up with requests that these birds be downed, if there were problems, or eliminated, if the nesting sites were too close to the landfill sites.

735 And so, one has to understand that even though we add more soil, and we even - to cover up the earth, of course, and that we try to scare them away, I would not be fully sincere if I said that there will be absolutely no gulls, but one may ask that they be culled or eliminated. We can ask for a permit for this. I am told that, in certain places, this request has been accepted. In other places, it has been turned down.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

740 (Translation) Now, the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and the
Parks, please, can you tell us what the experience of your ministry is concerning the fact that this
kind of problem with gulls - what is done, in fact, in this kind of situation? There have been requests,
I believe, in the past that you should be working in cooperation to reduce or to mitigate this impact.
Where do things stand now?

745

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Yes, Mme. Chair, yes, indeed, I'd like to tell you about the experience of the last
file that I dealt with in Lachenaie at a landfill site. There was a major colony of gulls that fed off the
750 site. And, therefore, a specialist was hired, because the other method that they used to try and scare
away the birds, the birds got used to these actually. And the other measures mentioned by Mr.
Poulin is to cover the earth using more soil every day, but the more effective way to do this is to hire
hawkers. And, therefore, this eliminates the problem.

755

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Anything else?

MR. LOUIS-MARIE POISSANT:

760

(Translation) Yes, I would simply like to mention that I filed with the commission at the back
of the room the document that is mentioned here by the gentleman "Effuse and Triage at
Lachenaie". So, our knowledge, this is of how to deal with this problem with gulls. It's a fifty (50)
page document.

765

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) By and large, what is the main conclusion here?

770

MR. LOUIS-MARIE POISSANT:

(Translation) It's pretty much what has been said already. The best method, of course, is to
cover the site daily or more than once daily, in fact. And then, we can also use hawkers.

775

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Poissant; we'll now ask Ms. Michèle Borchers. Did I pronounce
your name correctly?

780 MS. MICHELE BORCHERS:

(Translation) I don't need to introduce myself once more, I believe.

785 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) No, this is fine.

MS. MICHELE BORCHERS:

790 (Translation) I would like to start with the very beginning, in other words, the genesis of the project. Over the past two (2) years, the Mayor of Allevyn-and-Cawood declared or he said publicly - indeed, he also wrote it on a number of occasions - that the social acceptability would be a key aspect of this project, and the final decision would be made by the citizens, by the residents.

795 And yet, all throughout 2006, the Mayor systematically turned down the repeated requests for a referendum. And in March of 2006, he went so far as to use his veto to cancel or to reject a motion that was adopted a month previous by his council that aimed at setting up a referendum to deal with this project.

800 So, my question is addressed to the Mayor, the Mayor of Allevyn-and-Cawood, please. Could he explain the contradiction between his own public statements and his repeated refusals to hold a referendum?

805 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, we will first ask the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Regions or its spokesperson, Mr. Bernard Chartrand, what are the rights of residents when this kind of project comes up. I'm talking about TLS, of course, on a public or on private lands. What can citizens do in the framework of the legislation here in Quebec to support their position?

810 MR. BERTRAND CHARTRAND:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, in terms of dates or genesis, I mean this is totally new, but I - first of all, I have to say that, in terms of the municipality, certain things were done. We're talking about the applicable statutes, of course. I don't want to deal with things in a very detailed manner. I could come back to this issue of legislation and regulations tomorrow morning.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

820 (Translation) You can come back to us with more information tomorrow?

MR. BERNARD CHARTRAND:

(Translation) Yes, that's correct.

825

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, let's then move on to the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks. And the question is: How can an RCM exercise its right to take a position on these projects, and how can citizens be heard, make themselves heard, as they wish to be - as they wish to tell the elected representatives what their stand is on this kind of TLS?

830

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, as concerns the possibility for citizens to be heard, I would say that the only recourse that they have is to use public hearings such as this one, but as for the municipality, well, it - I mean if this project were authorized, this is an assumption, but, for this project to be carried out on the municipality's territory, the proponent needs a certificate on the part of the municipality stating that this project does not run counter to any municipal regulation.

835

840

But as to the power on the part of the citizens, the residents of a municipality, it is the people from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs who could tell us. We deal with the environmental affairs.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

845

(Translation) Well, how about the policy in terms of managing residual waste? The RCM's can state their position. Have they developed their own plan for managing residual waste? They have to work on these every five (5) years at the very least, and the municipality can state whether or not it will accept residual waste coming from outside of its own territory. And this, of course, the RCM is the management unit. This is part of the policy. So, how can citizens make themselves heard within this management plan, and tell the elected reps if they want this kind of waste disposal within their territory?

850

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

855

(Translation) Well, yes, Mme. Chair, as concerns their ability to act or when the RCM once again works on its PGMR, normally, it ought to be consulting with the population, and this is when the population can state whether or not they want this. In other words, the citizens will tell the RCM that this or that is what should be done in terms, for instance, limiting the amount of residual waste coming from outside, but they cannot totally prevent this.

860

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

865 (Translation) Right, the decree will decide what will be done, but the policy does state that the RCM must come up with its own management plan, and this plan deals with the origins of these residual waste.

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

870 (Translation) Yes, that is correct.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

875 (Translation) So, the RCM acts once the different possibilities have been defined, but can citizens still have their say once the plan has been written up, and once there is a decree on the part of the government? What can citizens do then after all of this?

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

880 (Translation) That's a very good question, Mme. Chair. Once the site has been set up, nothing else can be done by the residents. Once this has been authorized, that's it. Only once the site is filled to capacity and if the proponent comes back to the authorities and asks for additional capacity to be allowed them, to the proponent, then the citizens can once again make themselves heard. And, of course, the Minister has the right to have his or her own say on this.

885

MR. DONALD LABRIE,

COMMISSIONER:

890 (Translation) So, in your opinion, the residents of a municipality might not have an opportunity to be part of the decision, once the site is implemented?

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

895 (Translation) No, what I said, Mr. Commissioner, is that the control on the part of the RCM - I mean this is part of their management plan for residual waste, and this has to be fully developed before it is accepted by the Minister.

THE COMMISSIONER:

900

(Translation) Maybe I didn't say things right. I'm asking when residents can make themselves heard, if this is a matter that is up to the municipality, and if they're opposed, say, to

the development of a TLS. So, in your opinion, might it be that a municipality should decide to set up this kind of TLS without citizens having their say?

905

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Well, Mr. Commissioner, this is what I said, that, in the context of the - using the Act on the Quality of the Environment, by virtue of this act, citizens have two (2) opportunities to make themselves heard. There are the public hearings, and this is the present exercise, of course, and there is also consultation when the plan is being developed, because the RCM did have the right and the obligation to consult with its residents.

910

MR. BERNARD CHARTRAND:

915

(Translation) Mme. Chair, I could provide additional information in terms of what a municipality can do. One has to understand that the municipality holds meetings monthly, and decisions are made then. One must also say that people are allowed to ask questions then. So, that's one first opportunity where people consulted and informed, and the city council must answer questions and clarify things, and people at large are at full liberty to express their concerns with regards to strategic decisions. So, this is in line with the previous question.

920

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Very well, we'll now ask if there is a representative of the municipality of Alayn-and-Cawood, an elected official representative who could tell us how things were done. Is there anybody in the room here, who can field this one? The substitute, mayor substitute, please? Could he answer the question, so, in terms of how citizens are consulted by the municipality?

925

MS. MICHELE BORCHERS:

930

(Translation) If you wish, I can repeat my question in English.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

935

(Translation) I will repeat the question. Could you come to this table, please, and sit at the front? Very well, please sit over here. Please give the gentleman a microphone. So, tell us who you are, please.

940

MR. CARL MAYER:

We had votes on it, and it was the majority that we - that let it go ahead up to a higher level than us, like at the MRC level. That was one of the...

945 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Very well, have any requests been made on the part of the people in the community to see if there should be a referendum or a public consultation? In that sense, should this consultation have involved permanent residents and seasonal residents, people who have their secondary residents there?

950 MR. CARL MAYER:

Well, they'd come with papers signed with the residents and non-residents, and it was pretty well even at the - at that point. Like it was - no, like, listen, half of you people aren't even taxpayers that were going to the meetings. And when they signed or got papers signed, we just went ahead with the resolution to let it go ahead up the MRC level.

955 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Tomorrow, we'll be hearing about municipal business with regard to the rights of citizens to intervene on a municipal level, because it's crucial to identify if it's on the local, municipal, or other level that the approval has to be done, or if it's on the MRC level.

965

Moving on to the MRC or RCM, does MRC have a management plan, I believe? Could you tell us what the limit is in this management plan? Up until where can this waste come? How did you establish the process? What is part of your plan? And how did you undertake consultation of the population to establish the areas where this waste matter would come from?

970 MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

(Translation) Mme. Chairperson, the waste management plan describes from where this waste matter will come from. We stipulate that only matters that are produced in the Outaouais administrative region and the City of Gatineau are allowed, if there is a technical landfill.

975

Now, with regard to the process, the management plan starts in 2002, beginning 2003, and we undertook consultation in June, 2003. Landfill was brought up, and, at the time, we were asked if it would be possible to have a technical landfill site here, and we answered yes, since the regulations allowed for it at the time.

980

You'll remember that, in 2009, all entrenched waste or dumping entrenches will have to be shut down. We will have to find alternatives to these traditional dumps. And during the public consultations in 2003, we determined that this was an alternative, and this is part of the waste management plan. We said that it was in the interest of the Pontiac MRC to look at the feasibility of this technical landfill site here.

985

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

990 (Translation) Now, to your knowledge, are the other MRC's stated in your management plan, the ones that you say will be part of the waste area, have these MRC's tried to manage their waste on their own territories, find solutions on their own territories?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

995 (Translation) Each MRC and Gatineau tried to find a solution, an alternative, to dumps. We had to find a regional solution to this problem, however, and every MRC, as well as the City of Gatineau, undertook its own research in that matter. Now, obviously, ad hoc committees were struck to try and find solutions to this problem, alternative solutions. And, today, we find ourselves looking at other alternatives, but we know full well that TLS's are a short-term solution.

1000 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) How many municipalities are part of the Pontiac MRC?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1005 (Translation) Eighteen (18) municipalities, sir.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1010 (Translation) So, there was a vote during a meeting of the elected representatives. And how was this carried out? Was this a unanimous vote? Was it adopted un-division? Was there a lot of opposition to the technology that was proposed and the areas from which this waste will come?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1015 (Translation) There was quite a bit of discussion with regard to the alternative technology. Our reeve seems to prefer gasification, which is an alternative. Other mayors believed in technical landfills. Obviously, we've looked at composting, methanization, and it would seem that a majority of elected representatives prefer the technical landfill, since there are bylaws surrounding this choice.

1020 THE COMMISSIONER:

1025 (Translation) But the site that is proposed by the proponent, is this the only site that is available to the Pontiac?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1030 (Translation) We feel that this site is of regional interest. This does not exclude other alternatives. All these alternatives are being considered. We know full well that the project is well under way, but we are not closing the door to other alternatives. And in the fall, we did adopt temporary measures unanimously that dictate where the site should be, if the site is adopted. And this site is the one that we selected. The regulations were adopted November, 2006, and they have been in force since early 2007.

1035 Now, we have not given formal support to the project itself, to the technology behind technical landfills. We're saying that should there be a technical landfill, it will be on this site and nowhere else.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1040 (Translation) In other words, you're still open to alternatives, alternatives to this method of disposal. Is that what I should understand from what you're saying?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1045 (Translation) That's precisely it, Mr. Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1050 (Translation) Now, you're open to accepting residual matter of other MRC's from the region in your MRC.

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1055 (Translation) Yes, we would accept residual matter from Les-Collines-de-l'Outaouais and Papineau as well as Gatineau.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1060 (Translation) Could you tell me what the percentage of the municipalities in your MRC - what the percentage is, therefore, of those municipalities that agree with this proposal?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1065 (Translation) There was a strong majority. It wasn't a unanimous vote. Very often, there was one (1) or two (2) people that were opposed to the site or the technology, but a majority of elected representatives of Pontiac believe that this site is the best available.

1070 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Could resolutions support your statement indicating that most mayors supported this resolution?

1075 MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

(Translation) Yes, we have resolutions, and we can file them.

1080 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Please do. Please file them.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1085 (Translation) Sir, what is the spirit behind the policy with regard to waste management, as it has to do with consultation for waste management? We know that one component of waste management has to deal with the acceptance of waste matter from outside the immediate territory of MRC? How do you consult the population with regard to that, and what's the process behind this consultation?

1090 MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) In the legislation on environment quality, all analysis and research is explained. I can go through it section by section, but, on the whole, the MRC must consult its citizens. It's mandatory to see if they are agreeable or not. This is part of the legislation.

1095 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Could you file the bylaws or the act?

1100 MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Yes, Mme. Chairperson, it's not regulation. It's legislation. It's an act. There's a section in the act that deals with residual matter.

1105 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) And the temporary control regulations will be filed as well?

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1110

(Translation) Yes, yes, we can file those as well.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Thank you; now, before handing the floor over or, rather, I'd like to know from the City of Gatineau. Could you please tell us - could you please, first, introduce yourselves and tell us where you are in the management plan process? Have you decided upon the technology? Have you established volumes and time lines?

1120

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) Jacques Nadeau, Director of Environmental Services in Gatineau; at the city level, the waste volumes are a hundred thirty thousand (130,000) tons a year, including residential and industrial, commercial, and institutional areas.

1125

At the city level, we use landfills in Lachute. The contract will come to a close in June, 2008. And in its plan, the city will continue to use landfills until 2013. However, the city will undertake a study to determine how we could better dispose of waste in the medium and long term.

1130

Why five (5) years then? We feel that five (5) years is necessary. It would be impossible to find an alternative to dispose of this waste. So, until 2013 or at least until 2013, possibly 2018, we will be using landfill sites, but the city does intend to undertake a study to see if incineration or gasification or another technology would be a better alternative for the City of Gatineau in the medium term.

1135

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Do you have a management plan that's accepted? How did you carry out the consultations, and do you forecast any sort of update to this plan? What is your process? And is your priority to find a solution at home?

1140

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) I would say that, with regard to the management plan, yes, in fact, Gatineau has a waste management plan. It has been in place since March, 2006, and it will last five (5) years, as stated in the act. Your other question was?

1145

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Are you going to find alternative solutions on your own territory?

1150

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1155 (Translation) The city has not determined that the solution has to be found within the confines of the city.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1160 (Translation) But I did read somewhere that it was an objective, a goal, of the city.

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) If you read it, then I'm not aware of it.

1165 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) What about your impact study?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1170 (Translation) If I look at composting, the city council has decided to treat compostable matter on its own territory, and this decision was made last year.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1175 (Translation) Could we ask you to table your waste management plan?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1180 (Translation) Yes, absolutely.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1185 (Translation) Now, should the technical landfill site in Alleyn-and-Cawood municipality come to be, have you taken into account in the 2008/2013 horizon that you've established in your plan?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1190 (Translation) Yes, we've taken it into account. However, this time line of 2008 is very short, and it seemed unrealistic. However, we have looked at the site. The technical landfill site belongs to a private proponent. There should be therefore a call for proposals, and the lowest

bidder would retain our services.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1195

(Translation) So, if we look at the 2008/2013 time line, nothing is set in stone. That could depend on the call for proposals that would be launched by the city. So, you could choose another site.

1200

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) We have to understand that the proponent is looking at 2008. Will the site be ready in 2008 for the city? We have to make sure that, in July, 2008, there is somewhere where we can dispose of our waste. So, at the city level, we're working on a series of possibilities, because our contract comes to a close on June 30th, 2008.

1205

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Do you have alternative possibilities then?

1210

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) As I said, landfilling is done in Lachute. So, we could prolong this contract, but there are other landfill sites in Ste. Sophie near Montreal, Lachenaie as well near Montreal, that could take our waste.

1215

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) If I look at the transshipment, what would that represent?

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MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) A hundred and thirty-five (135) kilometres.

1225

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) And how far would that be from the Allevyn-Cawood municipality?

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MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) About a hundred (100) kilometres.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1235 (Translation) A hundred (100) kilometres versus a hundred and thirty-four (134), is that quite the economy of scale?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1240 (Translation) Personally, I would say that the transshipment would be similar, since the access road is harder. The distance is shorter, but the length of time would be the same, but that is my personal assessment of the matter.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1245 (Translation) What kind of consultation do you intend on carrying out with the population when you update your management plan for residual matter?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1250 (Translation) At minimum, we will meet the legislation's requirements. The current plan was subject to consultation. The city held consultation sessions to inform the population of the content of this waste management plan and the different directions it was envisaging.

1255 And following that, there were sessions to collect data and register comments. Following that, the consultation committee that had to be struck under the act produced a report to the city council. And in accordance with this report, the city council took a decision with regard to its waste management plan.

1260 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) With regard to the policy of the reclamation of waste, are you in line with the government policy?

1265 MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) In 2008, the city will start composting putrescible matter. However, as I said, there will be a delay until next year. Currently, we are collecting green matter, but not table matter. So, in 2008, will we meet the government's objectives? I think it would be wishful thinking. We will be very far from those goals.

1270 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) What's the percentage of recycling of green matter, plastic?

1275

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1280 (Translation) Currently, fifty percent (50%), we are at fifty percent (50%) of the government's objective. So, next year, we will have a new contract, and the city will probably migrate towards a collection of mixed recycling matter, and we hope to increase our recycling numbers.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1285 (Translation) So, the waste management plan you will be filing contains that information and the objectives that you've set for yourselves.

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1290 (Translation) Correct, the objectives were based on the provincial policy. Obviously, we have to update them, and we've said that.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1295 (Translation) Updated data will cover which periods?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1300 (Translation) Gatineau's plan revolves around 2004. These scenarios were established according to 2004, but we feel that these numbers will not have changed significantly.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) What do you do with your compost?

1305 MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

(Translation) Currently, only green matter is composted. Last year, the city collected two thousand (2,000) tons of green material, and it's collected by a private operator.

1310 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) And it is sold?

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1315 (Translation) Yes, it is sold or given out to different organizations or citizens.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1320 (Translation) So, you do try and compost where the waste is generated.

MR. JACQUES NADEAU:

1325 (Translation) As I said last fall, the council wanted to treat compostable matter on the city's territory.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1330 (Translation) So, we'll close that question for the evening, because there is a great number of people on the register.

MS. MICHELE BORCHERS:

1335 (Translation) I would like to make a quick comment, Mme. Commissioner. I would like to make sure that, for the record, we can see that, once again, the citizens of Alleyn-and-Cawood did not get a clear answer to the question that was posed.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1340 (Translation) You will see in the transcript what those responses are. You will have a verbatim of these exchanges. We will pick up where we left off tomorrow. We didn't get a quite clear answer on the citizens' rights.

1345 Research will be done, and I would appreciate that you give us a clear presentation of the citizens' rights with regard to consultation, not only at the municipality level, but can citizens demand a referendum? And if they do not get that referendum, what are their other recourses on a municipal level and very clearly at the MRC level? What is the consultation process that should be undertaken?

1350 What we've understood by reading the policy, as Mr. Mbaraga indicated earlier, is there is a waste management plan that sets out the possibility to accept waste coming from other municipalities or areas, and that a decree by government allows for a certain volume. Then, the citizens have no control during the length of time of the decree that determines the volume accepted.

1355 So, perhaps the commission is erring in its interpretation, and we would like you to clarify that. Could you clarify it tonight or if not, tomorrow?

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

1360 (Translation) Mme. Chairperson, everything you said is true, is quite correct.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1365 (Translation) It's very important. The citizens have to have some sort of possibility to review a project when it's proposed. If the government sets out a certain level of volume, no further control is afforded to the citizen. This means that, tomorrow, tomorrow afternoon, we would like you to answer these questions.

MR. BERNARD CHARTRAND:

1370 (Translation) Mme. Chairperson, tomorrow, the Director General will be on location and will bring further clarification to my answer.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1375 (Translation) We will greet you with great pleasure tomorrow then; Mr. John Edwards, please.

MR. JOHN EDWARDS:

1380 (Translation) Mme. Commissioner, Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen (end of translation), my question is also about social acceptability, and I am also a member of the coalition against the dump.

1385 In 2003, according to a published report in the Shawville Equity, the promoter, when questioned about a referendum, said he would be in favour of referendum in respect to an earlier project of his at Quillon. My question is the following. Why has the promoter been so reluctant to endorse a referendum in respect of the Danford proposal? And perhaps being idealistic, would he consider supporting a referendum in the next months?

1390

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Mr. Rouleau.

1395 MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) Thank you, Mme. Chairperson; now, with regard to the project that was quoted by the questioner, the lots in that case belonged to the municipality. Therefore, we

1400 required the approval of the citizens. In the current project, the municipality does not own the lots we are looking at. Now, your question is hypothetical, and it's very difficult to answer it, quite honestly.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1405 (Translation) We'll ask the municipality then. How many citizens or taxpayers, whether they're residents or seasonal residents, how many are there in the municipality?

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1410 (Translation) Mme. Chairperson, a hundred and eighty-seven (187) according to our statistics, and seasonal five hundred fifty (550), so, in all, seven hundred forty-six (746) municipal tax accounts.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1415 (Translation) Seven hundred forty-six (746) municipal tax accounts, that means properties.

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1420 (Translation) Correct, so, there would be about five hundred fifty (550) seasonal, a hundred eighty-seven (187) permanent.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1425 (Translation) You're talking about properties here, but you're not necessarily talking about a number of people, because it could be two (2) people per --

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1430 (Translation) Correct, it could be two (2) per property.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Very well, have you ever held a referendum in the past?

1435 MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

(Translation) No, not since I've been in my current position.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1440

(Translation) And how do you proceed when a major issue arises in your municipality? How do you proceed to inform your fellow citizens, and do you do it for permanent residents and seasonal residents?

1445 MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1450

(Translation) Yes, for the land fill site, the municipality sent out a letter to the residents to tell them that this project was envisaged, no, not rather - not that the project was envisaged, but that there were rules to foresee these landfill sites, but as - with regard to your question on referendums, we did not hold a referendum, because our legislation does not require it. And it was a great expense for our municipality, and the referendum would have been consultative. And being consultative in nature, it would have been a very large expense for the municipality.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1455

(Translation) You say the current bylaws allow for the establishment of a landfill on your territory.

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1460

(Translation) Excuse me, I didn't answer your question - I didn't understand your question.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1465

(Translation) Your bylaw allows for a technical landfill site to be established on your territory.

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1470

(Translation) Are you talking about zoning?

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Yes.

1475

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

(Translation) There's no zoning currently, but I think the MRC will rezone it.

1480 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) What's the current zoning of the proposed area?

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1485 (Translation) Our city planning does not allow for a landfill, no. Our city planning services do not allow for a landfill site.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1490 (Translation) So, you'll have to modify your regulations and bylaws, correct?

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

1495 (Translation) Not necessarily, I'm not a city planner, and I'm not aware of all regulations surrounding city planning, but perhaps Mr. Duchesne could answer your question.

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Yes, please go ahead, Mr. Duchesne.

1500 MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1505 (Translation) With regard to zoning, we dealt with the issue through adopting the temporary regulations that I mentioned earlier. Since it's a very large scope project and since it was in the interest of the MRC to look at the feasibility of this technical landfill, we adopted a temporary regulation in accordance with the city planning legislation.

And as I said earlier, we are dictating the site where the technical landfill would be possible. And the only possible site would be the one where this project is proposed.

1510 And when we adopt such temporary regulation, we do not have to have public consultation or a referendum. So, we dealt with the issue of the referendum through this regulation, and we dealt with zoning as well through these same regulations. So, this applies as of the 31st of January.

1515 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) In other words, the decision is up to the elected representatives and the municipality and the RCM in terms of choosing a location for this kind of site for eliminating residual waste.

1520

MR. PIERRE DUCHESNE:

1525 (Translation) As I mentioned previously, the site had been identified as of interest for the whole region for a TLS. We did not want there to be a second TLS nearby. So, we chose a specific location. And our temporary regulation, when it applies, has priority over any other type of bylaw or regulation, and this is in accordance with the legislation.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1530 (Translation) Well, then, tomorrow, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs will tell us if, hypothetically, say, a municipality came up with a bylaw, in other words, if it held a referendum, say, and the referendum were - I mean the results, the outcome, were that people were opposed, then creating a new TLS, I mean if the RCM - could the RCM tell the municipality to set up a TLS on its territory, despite the fact that the residents were opposed during a referendum? Thank you for your question; Ms. Christine Schnupp.

1535

MS. CHRISTINE SCHNUPP:

1540 Hello, my name is Christine Schnupp, and I live in Kazabazua on Highway 301. And my question concerns what kind of waste comes to this technical landfill site. Are you talking slaughterhouses? My concern is that you're bringing in rats and vermin from dumpsters that - if you're holding a dump bin that has come from a slaughterhouse, it's bound to have rats and vermin. And are you bringing that into our territory along with the garbage? Thank you.

1545 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

Mr. Rouleau.

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

1550 (Translation) Thank you, Mme. Chair; this question has to do with regulations. So, I think I'll ask Dr. André Poulin to answer this question.

MR. ANDRE POULIN:

1555 (Translation) Mme. Chair, in Section 2, I believe, of the regulation dealing with the disposal and incineration of residual waste, there is a list of the waste that cannot be accepted in a TLS, a technical landfill site. I'm sorry, that's Section 4 rather than two (2). So, these cannot be sent to this kind of TLS.

1560 And you have therefore a list, a full-fledged list, of the waste that cannot be sent to this kind of site, including sludge, residual sludge, less than fifteen percent (15%) dry matter or, in

other words, whatever is quite humid, more than eighty-five percent (85%), if you will, water. So, residual sludge from municipalities are too humid and could not be sent and disposed of with municipal waste.

1565

There's also the issue of hazardous waste, biomedical waste. There's quite a list, actually, of waste that cannot be sent to this kind of site. And as mentioned in the impact assessment study, no such waste can go through the control station, if it is not in line with Section 4 of the regulation.

1570

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) How about carcasses, animal, dead animal carcasses? This is the question after all.

1575

MR. ANDRE POULIN:

(Translation) Well, as for dead animal carcasses, they can either be composted or incinerated or else buried. However, they cannot be sent to a landfill site. These carcasses from slaughterhouses or from farms, there is regulation that applies to these carcasses. Nevertheless --

1580

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Let's move on now. We will get back to you later on. The Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks, what does the regulation say in terms of carcasses?

1585

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) We'll ask my colleague to answer this question.

1590

MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) Good evening, the regulation stipulates that non-edible meats, as defined by the regulation on foods, must be eliminated based on the elimination or disposal of foods. So, certain types or certain animals or certain carcasses can be buried, but other animals simply cannot, unless there is a specific order for disposal or slaughtering or culling.

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If there should be an epidemic, for instance, in those cases, the Ministry of Agriculture can, indeed, take specific measures and decree different ways of disposing of these. So, this is for non-edible meats.

1600

Now, there is also the other types of animals, wild animals or household pets. So, these animals are residual - if they become residual waste, can be buried and can be sent to landfill sites.

1605 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, specifically now, say a cow dies on a farm, where would it go? Where would the carcass go?

1610 MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) Well, right now, the regulation on foods allows for this carcass to be buried on the farm. There's a lot of fluctuation, a lot of flux, in terms of what we do with these.

1615 It used to be that most of these or all of these were sent to the - to be cut up. Now, because of the different illnesses - well, the renderers, they used to be rendered, but, right now, the renderers won't accept these anymore given the fact that there isn't a market out there anymore for them, but they are looking at the possibility of setting up different chains for the different animals.

1620 And they would be dealing with the different parts of these animals that might be a source of certain illnesses, and some of these might be sent to the renderers, but there would be separate chains for processing these and for processing the results of these. These would not be used in feed stuffs for other animals. They might be used in cement-making plants and burned or else disposed of in landfill sites.

1625 I would like to add something here. We've prepared a chart that summarizes the situation with the different types of animals that could be sent to landfill sites as opposed to those that cannot. It actually depends on the different animals, of course. We're talking about pigs and hens, and there are different options out there. It's quite complex. It depends on the kind of animal. So, I could, of course, table this chart to give you a bit of a picture of the overall situation.

1630

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Yes, can you table this with us?

1635

MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) Yes, tomorrow.

1640 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) You say that certain carcasses of animals that died of illness, that the renderers, at times, won't accept these. Am I right?

1645 MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) Yes, correct.

1650 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Well, then, where do they go, these carcasses, if the renderers won't accept them? Are they sent to dumps?

1655 MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) Well, inasmuch as the regulation on foods does allow for this, certain animals are sent there. Others cannot be sent there. Those that cannot be sent, well, one option consists in burying these on the farm. Another option that a certain number of producers have decided to use is incineration on the farm. So, they can set up small incinerators for these animals, and renderers are still taking some of these, but the cost is way higher than what it used to be. And, therefore, this option is way less attractive.

1660 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Can it be said that a large number of these carcasses are sent to the landfill sites?

1665 MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) No, only a part of these animals. Well, it depends, as I said, depending on the kind of animal. For sheep, for instance, most of these are sent to burying, a landfill site, but most of the animal production in Quebec, yes, in Quebec, is cows and hogs. So, for those animals, it's quite expensive compared to the cost that - for disposal that producers used to pay. So, this is not their privileged option.

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1675 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) So, what they usually opt for, based on the information that you're giving us, is to bury them on the farm?

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MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

1685 (Translation) Yes, or small incinerators on the farm, and depending on the different kinds of animals, I mean, for certain kinds of animals or certain parts of these animals, they can be sent to the renderers.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1690 (Translation) But we are basically to understand that it's becoming less easy to go down that road, because renderers, given the problems that have cropped up with animal feeds and the kind of - the consequences and the problem with the image.

MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

1695 (Translation) Yes, indeed.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1700 (Translation) What kind of control do you exercise in terms of landfill sites to avoid, say, hogs or cows or whatever animal that has been sick or that died after a sickness, to make sure that - I mean what do you do on the landfill sites? Is there any control?

MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

1705 (Translation) Well, for those animals that died following an illness or if there is an epidemic, the Ministry of Agriculture does do a follow-up, and they're in charge of managing these carcasses. So, they go from the farm to wherever. So, it isn't a case where any agricultural producer can do just anything.

1710 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1715 (Translation) More information on the part of Mr. Rouleau on the question that was posed with regard to the problems that could crop up, if animals were sent to a TLS, based on your experience now, looking at other sites that you know, might there be vermin? Did you ever see this kind of situation?

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

1720 (Translation) I'll ask Dr. André Poulin to answer this question.

MR. ANDRE POULIN:

(Translation) Well, indeed, it's extremely important to do the daily cover in order to avoid

1725 or to have a good eradication, elimination, of the vermin. And by being very generous as we apply soil every day to get a good cover, we avoid this vermin, the rodents. We do good compacting. And based on our experience, we know that we can reduce and control the presence of vermin. And we can also use a rodenticide around the sites to make sure that there is no vermin coming from the forest itself.

1730 We must also understand that, in a forested - in a wooded area such as this site that we're talking about, in this area, in the wildlife, there are birds, the kinds of birds that you usually don't find in urban areas, birds of prey. So, around Danford Lake, there are falcons, for instance. I think there are also certain, well, small eagles or owls, in other words, birds of prey, and this is good for scaring away the gulls. And the rodents become preys for these.

1735

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Finishing off on this question for this evening, Mr. Rouleau, what kind of dead animal would you accept in the TLS?

1740

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

1745 (Translation) Inasmuch as this is allowed for by the regulations, but this is not really encouraged, so, the comment on the part of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Environment, and Parks stating that it's way more expensive, I mean we don't really want to have these in these sites. And, therefore, we ask - we charge more, but inasmuch or insofar as it is allowed by the regulation, I mean this regulation is very important as we try and manage these sites, well, yes, it would be feasible.

1750

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you for your question, I'll ask you to re-register; Mr. Roy Thomas or Roy Thomas.

1755

MR. RAY THOMAS:

1760 Mme. Chairman, Mr. Commissioner, my name is Ray Thomas. I'm a taxpayer in both Alleyn-and-Cawood and in Kazabazua. I'm also on the executive of the coalition against the Danford mega dump. My question is more technical. The environmental impact report describes a geo-membrane liner system to be used, and this was also mentioned by Mr. Rouleau tonight, a double liner system of two (2) high density polyethylene membranes with a bentonite geo-membrane layer below the bottom polyethylene liner.

Now, the American Society of Civil Engineers has conducted research into the leak rate

1765 of untreated leachate through landfill liners. They have concluded that all liners will leak, and that, even under pristine conditions, liners will leak at a minimum rate of two hundred (200) litres per day per hectare.

1770 Environment Canada's web site states that all engineered facilities will likely fail releasing leachate to the ecosystems.

1775 So, my question is: Does the promoter accept that the research carried out by such a prestigious body as the American Society of Civil Engineers and by Environment Canada as valid that all liners leak? It's just a matter of time. And, therefore, they would not be able to collect and treat all the leachate.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1780 Mr. Rouleau.

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) Thank you, Mme. Chair; Mr. Yves Gagnon can answer this question.

1785 MR. YVES GAGNON:

1790 (Translation) Yes, Mme. Chair, well, as you know, in the new rules, the system, the double liner system, which is - which the Government of Quebec forces us to use, was, of course, chosen by the government based on American regulations, the EPA in the U.S., and regulations that exist in other Canadian provinces, on the one hand.

1795 On the other hand, this kind of membrane, of course, the high density membranes are the product that, at this point in time, are the very best in order to encapsulate the leachates that are generated, to capture and to keep these. And these membranes are quite resistant chemically speaking and mechanically.

1800 Nevertheless, as the gentleman mentioned, it is clear that, for different reasons, there might be damage to these membranes, especially soon after they're set. So, we can assess the damage by coming up with assumptions, conservative ones, in fact, and this is what we did in this instance.

And these estimates tell us that, in fact, on a yearly basis, for the overall surface that we're looking at in this new TLS, we're talking about a leak in the quantity of leachate water that could go into the ground water under the site in the order of two hundred and fifty (250) litres a year.

1805 So, this figure, if you will, is basically in line with other studies that were published of late, published, for instance, by Dr. Cary Rowe. This is an academic who is quite known. He's working in Ontario on these issues for a number of years.

1810 And so, the gentleman is right to say that there might be leaks. However, these leaks overall would not be all that significant.

1815 And to finish off on this issue, I was mentioning two hundred and fifty (250) litres a year. This is a pretty negative scenario, by the way, a pessimistic one. So, in terms of the overall quantity of water circulating under the site, we're talking about a dilution rate in the order of ten thousand (10,000) to twenty thousand (20,000) times this quantity of leachate that might have, well, leaked.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1820 (Translation) You're saying based on a pessimistic scenario this two hundred and fifty (250) litre figure per year going through the membrane, and this is based on experience or are we talking about pessimistic assessments of what might occur and what might go through the membrane?

MR. YVES GAGNON:

1825 (Translation) Well, what needs to be understood is that the system, of course, we're looking at the system overall. So, starting with the residual waste, then you have one first layer for the draining, then one initial geo membrane. Under this one, you have a second layer for draining, and we're trying to collect here whatever goes through the higher membrane.

1830 And then, under the second membrane or layer, you have the second geo membrane, and then the third level for - and we're talking here about a geo-synthetic clay liner replacing clay. And this kind of technology has been approved by the government on a number of occasions, because it's equivalent to the layer of clay that is called for by the new regulations.

1835 And when you come up with this kind of calculation, you use certain assumptions as you work through things. For instance, we're in a position to calculate, first of all, how much water there might be on top of the first membrane, and this is accomplished. This calculation, it's, you know, relatively simple using a well-known method.

1840 Later on, you have to come up with assumptions as to the number and the diameter of the holes that might potentially be found in the first geo membrane.

1845 And it is in this situation that I tell you that there are a certain number of articles. There is literature out there. There has been a lot of research in the U.S. and coming to the conclusion that thanks to a good quality control, as you build the TLS, the number of holes that you might find overall and the size of these holes. There's a lot of data on this.

1850 And we use these assumptions, and we - based on the scientific articles, papers, and based on these, we come up with, say, pessimistic assumptions. And then, you calculate, and you come to the volume that I mentioned a while ago.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1855 (Translation) So, two hundred and fifty (250) litres a year leaching through the lower membrane and winding up, say, in the water table. Could things deteriorate over the years, however? And does this take into account the degree of effectiveness of the overall operation? I mean could there not be some degree of neglect because of this or that operator, and he might have broken the membrane or one of the membranes during his operations?

1860 I mean how is this being monitored, and how can we be sure that, over the years, there will not be deterioration of these membranes and, therefore, a flow that might be higher than two hundred and fifty (250) litres? And what would then happen? When would you detect these problems, and what would you do if you came to see that there was way more than two hundred and fifty (250) litres a year?

1865 MR. YVES GAGNON:

1870 (Translation) Well, of course, the first thing that has to be pointed out is that as we build these, and as you know, there is a quality assurance program that would be implemented. And this program is, indeed, very important, because it forces the company that does the work, does the construction, a specialty company, by the way, that positions these membranes, they have to do quality control, and this is well defined.

1875 And then, there's a third party afterwards that, once again, does quality control. And this time around, we're talking about quality assurance, making sure that the initial quality control on the part of the people installing the membrane has been up to scratch. So, if there were perforations, they had to be repaired, for instance. So, that, of course, is important.

1880 Another thing that I haven't mentioned is that there is also a company, at least one here in Quebec, one company that, after these geo membranes have been put down, can detect the leaks. And the technique that they use and that has been around for more than ten (10) years is being used ever more often.

So, once everything has been set up, the membranes are there, these people can come

1885 in, and they can detect perforations. There hasn't been any granular material put on the membranes yet. So, you can still act on the situation.

1890 And once the aggregates have been - the fine aggregate materials have been on top of the membranes - and this, of course, is a very critical moment during the construction, because this, too, may be a situation where more problems are created. So, these people, once again, can detect the leaks even after the aggregate material has been put on top of the membrane. So, if we do see that there is a problem, we can repair it. So, this is of major import.

1895 Now, also, when all of this is in operation, if during the operational phase, and this will come over time progressively, if you see that, in the drainage, the intermediate drainage layer between the two (2) membranes, you see that there is more liquid, more water, well, the alarm bells start ringing, and you start trying to find out why this is happening. And sooner or later, you might rectify the situation, because you see that, in a specific place, there might be a problem.

1900 And at the end of the day, and this I mentioned a while ago, you see that there are leaks that do occur, and that water might - leachate might go into the table, the water table, it is your monitoring wells around the TLS that can be used for you to see what the evolution of the situation is over time. And this would allow you to detect any anomaly, and this would also allow you over time to trigger an intervention process to try and rectify the situation, if need be.

1905 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) To the representative of the Environment and Parks, Ministry representative, is the technology proposed here found as is in other sites in Quebec?

1910 MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Yes, Mr. Commissioner, since 1993, these technical landfill sites have been subject to the environment assessment protocol. All sites that did not have enough clay cover were authorized with the double layer.

1915 Why double a layer? Because this answers the question or the concern the gentleman is raising. It wasn't sufficient in the past. We needed a double water tightness, so that if there is one leak, this leak is captured. And should there be another leak, an accidental leak, then the clay layer or the under layer will prevent the leachate from reaching ground waters.

1920 But what you have to understand is that there will always be capturing of leachate. The accident mentioned here has never been mentioned. I've never heard of a membrane being so poorly installed that it has allowed for these kinds of leak.

1925

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) How many sites are authorized with these double layers in Quebec?

1930 MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) I was talking about sites that went through the procedure, but there were twenty-four (24) or twenty-six (26) authorizations. And amongst those, I would say more than three-quarters used the double layering.

1935

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) But you get periodical reports on the state of evolution, the quality of ground waters, and leachate. On those sites, did you get reports to the effect that there were leaks, and that the site operator had to correct the issue?

1940

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) This is what surprised me of these statements, because as far as I know, to my knowledge, and I will let Michel respond, but I think Michel should also tell us what the latest publications of UP are with regard to these geo membranes. He may tell us more about their natural degradation or the durability of the geo membranes.

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MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

1950

(Translation) Now, with regard to the problems noticed having to do with leaks in sites using double layering, a first thing, the control of the site is done regionally. Therefore, Mr. Mbaraga and I work at the headquarters, and data is not necessarily sent to the headquarters.

1955

However, should there be a problem, a contamination problem, contamination of ground water, or should there be a leak found in the first membrane, and that we found important quantities of leachate, then I'm convinced that regional authorities would require assistance, and this has not happened of yet.

1960

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) And you say that, in Quebec, these are installed since 1993 more or less, first authorization under the regulation.

1965

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) The first authorization dates back to 1995, but if memory serves, that was

the Lachenaie project, and the Lachenaie project has about twenty (20) metres of clay. So, there was no requirement for a double membrane.

1970

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) But, according to the literature, what will happen in twenty-five (25), thirty (30), thirty-five (35) years? What will be the quality of those membranes? Will they be deteriorated? Will they still be efficient, or will there be less leachate susceptible to migrate up to the underground table?

1975

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) We will file the article that Michel has in hand tomorrow.

1980

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) You have something else to add, sir?

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MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) If you'll allow me to answer your question, the EPA produced a report called "Assessment and Recommendation for Approving a Performance of Waste Containment Systems". This was produced in December, 2002.

1990

I mean if you want to talk about the durability of the membranes, their assessment is based on ageing trials, accelerated ageing trials, and the data that they've collected led them to determine that they would last about nine hundred fifty (950) years, close to a thousand (1,000) years then. So, this is the length of duration for the physical properties of the geo membrane to last.

1995

They would then be reduced by fifty percent (50%). So, it doesn't even mean that after nine hundred fifty (950) years, they would not work at all, but they felt that was the - fifty percent (50%) of the properties were lost. Then, the life cycle had come to an end, so, nine hundred fifty (950) some years.

2000

And on top of that, investigations have been carried out in existing sites. You have to understand that the Americans are further along with regard to the use of these geo membranes in landfill sites. So, there has been an investigation in many burial cells that have the double layering technique, and a control was done on the quantity of water that leaks through these membranes.

2005

And the data suggests that a single membrane, the superior membrane, would have a

level of efficiency of ninety (90) to ninety-nine percent (99%). So, one (1) to ten percent (10%) of the leachate would leak through.

2010

And for the second layer, the second level, since it's a double layer, the efficiency would run from ninety-nine (99) to ninety-nine point nine percent (99.9%). So, the leak rates, flow rates, would be two (2) to ten (10) litres per hectare per day, which is very little as compared to the dilution capacity of underground water.

2015

So, those are the results of the EPA studies.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) If I were to ask you to give us your assessment of - or your level of confidence of the water tightness of the proposal at hand, how would you qualify it? Good? Very good?

MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

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(Translation) What the proponent's proposal is in line with the regulations on incineration and landfills. So, if we felt that water tightness wasn't guaranteed, we would not accept it. I am quite confident that this will allow for proper containment of leachate, if construction is conducted with a proper quality assurance program.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) I thank you for your question. We'll be breaking for five (5) minutes, and we will keep going until eleven (11:00) or eleven ten (11:10).

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SHORT ADJOURNMENT

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Excuse me, is my microphone working? Very well, we'll invite Mr. Mike Power.

MR. MIKE POWER:

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Mme. Commissioner, Mr. Commissioner, thank you for the opportunity for me to ask a question of you. Much of the attention this evening on public consultation has been on MRC Pontiac and the municipality of Alayn-and-Cawood, but, right next door, we have MRC Gatineau Valley. And, specifically, my question has to deal with the municipality of Kazabazua.

2050 In this area, we have about over twenty (20) lakes, pristine lakes, which is located mostly within the municipality of Kazabazua about ten (10) kilometres from the landfill site. And this represents what I would believe to be the greatest concentration of recreational property within the proximity of the landfill site.

2055 So, my question is: How has the proponent made certain that the opinions from the residents and land owners in the municipality of Kazabazua have been elicited and collected in order to represent their majority position on the environmental impact of the proposed landfill site?

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2060 Mr. Rouleau.

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

2065 (Translation) I would admit, Mme. Chairperson, that our consultation efforts and representation efforts in the community were mainly focused on the host community and in the host MRC, our position being that if it is within ten (10) kilometres, the impact can be felt. However, above and beyond the ten (10) kilometres, this impact would be lower.

2070 Now, there would be impact with transportation, but we felt that the BAPE consultations or public hearings would be the best forum to deal with this. However, we did visit the - we did invite Kazabazua to invite us in turn to make a presentation on the project, and we never received this invitation.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2075 (Translation) Does this answer your question, sir?

MR. MIKE POWER:

2080 Not really, but that's okay. We'll follow up later.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2085 (Translation) Mr. Renato Livinal, please.

MR. RENATO LIVINAL:

Mme. Chairperson, Commissioner, my question is a basic of - it's a brand new question that just come out as a follow-up. It has to deal with my democratic right as a Quebecer and as a

2090 Canadian. I've been in Danford since 1987, both as a person, as a businessman, as a promoter, and as an assistant to the Mount O'Brien Association, which is an association dedicated to the welfare and the nature park, proposed nature park, of nine thousand (9,000) acres behind my property. For those period of times, we've been working very hard in developing these projects at the cost of money, time, labour, and so on.

2095 My question goes to the municipality of Alleyn-and-Cawood, which deals specifically with my democratic right as a Quebecer and as a Canadian. Am I a first-class citizen or a second-class citizen? I have paid my taxes, my dues, to the municipality of Alleyn-and-Cawood for the past twenty (20) years, twenty (20) years, not one (1), not two (2), twenty (20). Does that give me some rights?

2100 The question of legality of the current administration of Alleyn-and-Cawood has to be questioned in view of the fact and contrary to the statement previously made by the representative of the Mount O'Brien - of the Alleyn-and-Cawood municipality is that the only communication I ever got in the past twenty (20) years were my regular tax bill, my annual tax bill, no other notices. No other notices of elections were ever done.

2105 So, the bottom line is that, as a taxpayer of Danford Lake for the past twenty (20) years, I was forfeited the right, my democratic right, to do the actual voting and to vote for or against the current administrations. And that is basically the problems that we - that I have been having. So, do the municipality make a distinction between a taxpayer and entrepreneur and a full-time resident of Danford Lake? What is my right as a taxpayer? That's my question.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2115 Mme. Cartier-Villeneuve.

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

2120 (Translation) Yes, Mme. Chairperson, Mr. Livinal is treated as all taxpayers are treated, residents or non. When the municipality sends out notices to the public, these are not only sent out to residents. They are sent out to the taxpayers of the municipality.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2125 (Translation) The Ministry of Natural Resources and Fauna, the territory where the TLS would be found is publicly owned. Has there been a decree indicating that this space would be rented out or sold to the proponent.

MR. LAURENT MASSICOTTE:

2130 (Translation) In this current file, no, all the other steps have to be finalized, the

authorization certificate by the Environment, all the other studies that precede this.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) And is there on this public land another technical landfill site that has been authorized in the past years and that is privately owned, to your knowledge?

MR. LAURENT MASSICOTTE:

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(Translation) I could not answer that question.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Could you check and come back to us with an answer tomorrow?

MR. LAURENT MASSICOTTE:

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(Translation) Yes, I'll investigate.

MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

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(Translation) Mme. Chairperson, if you'll allow me, in the new regulations, there's an obligation for the person who wants to set up a technical landfill site to be the owner of the lots. So, as long as the operator is not the owner of the lots, he cannot meet the regulations on disposal of residual matter.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) So, the promoter is not the owner of the land, but your question is once the entire procedure is followed through and all the steps finalized, it's at that point that the land can be sold to the promoter.

MR. LAURENT MASSICOTTE:

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(Translation) I will validate that tomorrow, but as far as I know, that's the process.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) But has there been a commitment, some sort of letter, sent to the proponent to guarantee that he will be able to buy these lots or the land? Because he has engaged a lot of costs. If he has no guarantee, how can he operate?

MR. LAURENT MASSICOTTE:

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(Translation) I'll ask my colleague to answer your question.

MR. PATRICK AUTOTTE:

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(Translation) Good evening, Mr. Commissioner, there has been no such communication. A request was made by the proponent to the Ministry of Natural Resources to see if he could buy the public land, since his project aims at setting up this type of land site on a publicly-owned lot, but before obtaining this authorization by the Ministry, he must demonstrate that he has obtained the proper certification and meets the requirements of the act. This is a requirement before we can

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even consider selling government or public land. There can be a pre-authorized sale, but we would have to check with the Ministry of Environment to see if a decree could settle the matter.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) That's what we understood, that you had to be an owner to obtain the licence. So, following all of this, the sale is possible.

MR. PATRICK AUTOTTE:

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(Translation) Correct.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) But could you get us the information, the communications, that has happened between you and the proponent?

MR. PATRICK AUTOTTE:

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(Translation) Yes.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) How will the land be sold? How will you assess the value of the land? What's the process? Do you sell the entire zone? Does the proponent have to justify the area that he is reserving for the actual site?

MR. PATRICK AUTOTTE:

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(Translation) To answer the first part of your question, we will sell it according to market value. Market value is the price set out by the Ministry. Now, with regard to what can be sold,

this is at the discretion of the Minister, depending on the justification of needs. It really depends on the type of facilities that are envisaged.

2220 There can also be renting of the land, but for a technical landfill site, the Ministry prefers a sale over a rental, because the government would not have - would not want to have to manage the site following its operation.

THE COMMISSIONER:

2225 (Translation) Could the municipality give us an idea of the market value of - does the municipality not have an assessment of its value as well? The representative of the Natural Resources Ministry says that the lot will be sold at market value. Can I base my judgement at market value on the assessment you've done of its value, the municipal assessment? How do I know what market value is?

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MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

(Translation) I couldn't tell you what it's worth. I can't tell you how much the municipal assessment has set it out as.

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THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) You don't have value per hectare, for example?

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MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

(Translation) No.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) Because the Ministry, I suppose, does not pay tax to the municipality.

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

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(Translation) Correct, because it's Crown land.

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Very well, thank you; go ahead.

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MR. PATRICK AUTOTTE:

(Translation) If you would allow me to add something to the value itself, I'm not a

2260 professional assessor, but market value is determined on the basis of the use of the site. Therefore, market value is based on the use intended, which is not the case for real estate, for example.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2265 (Translation) So, when you come back to us tomorrow on that issue, we'd like to know as well what kind of proponent could ask to buy public land to make, for example, recreational use. We could think of hotels, inns, or sites for other uses. Do you have a policy that sets out the framework for the type of use that these lots are sold for?

MR. PATRICK AUTOTTE:

2270 (Translation) When we receive a project, the Ministry is very open, and the process is to verify if there are problems with the use intended. I'm thinking of, for example, the Ministry-wide assessment of the vocational use of its land, and we analyze general regulations as well.

2275 Now, if the Ministry sees no problem or no - has no specific objection, normally, for recreational projects or other such projects, there is a consultation with other ministerial partners to see if there can be an impact on wooded areas or the environment, but, normally, for a regional or local project, we will ask the proponent to get support in the community to defend his project at the Ministry level and also make sure then that it is in line with the general priorities of the area.

2280 So, there is no specific model. It's on a case-by-case basis. So, if we're talking about a TLS, this is, of course, acceptable, and we are willing to look into what the very best use of this kind of public land might be.

2285 In this specific instance, we did not look at the possibility of using other public lands. The analysis stopped at the department when the coordination office set up the consultation process through the public hearings. So, we held a consultation internally within the department, within the Ministry. That was it.

2290 And as Mr. Massicotte said, we're waiting for the outcome or the results of the commission and the decree, if ever there is a decree in this file.

MR. RENATO LIVINAL:

2295 (Translation) In Alleyn-and-Cawood this year, we're talking about four hundred (400) acres that could be developed. Anyway, I asked Ms. Villeneuve. She said that about thirty-six percent (36%) might be developed. So, that's it.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) I'm sorry, what are you saying, thirty-six percent (36%)?

MR. RENATO LIVINAL:

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(Translation) Thirty-six percent (36%).

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) You're talking about an increase.

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) Can we provide additional information, Madam?

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Yes.

MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

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(Translation) Yes, the floor goes to Mr. Poulin.

MR. ANDRE POULIN:

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(Translation) Mme. Chair, I'd like to point out to you that, right at the outset, even before we sent to the Ministry of the Environment the notice of project, there was a request for a legal opinion on the part of the proponent to Ogilvy Renault, a law firm, and Me Jean Piette looked into these matters with the Ministry of the Environment, looked into this very matter. Is it the chicken or the egg? We're trying to figure out who is the egg and who is the chicken.

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So, we looked into this and tried to check things out to see if, at the end of the whole process, it would be possible to go through this exercise. And the legal opinion on the part of Ogilvy Renault was, well, yes, indeed, and they checked with the Ministry of the Environment despite the fact that this was not a matter of, well, public lands. So, Me Jean Piette, counsel Jean Piette, confirmed this. Otherwise, it would have been deemed un-receivable.

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MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

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(Translation) Mme. Chair, I'd like to specify something here. When we speak of the environmental authorizations, as the gentleman just said in terms of the decree, it's similar to

municipal bylaws. We want - this is a matter for Section 22. So, if the government wants to give a decree, he could get it, but he cannot develop his project getting a certification authorization, if he's not the owner of the land.

2345 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you; Mr. Ken Lapierre, please. Is Mr. Ken Lapierre still in the room? No, Ms. Denis Larocque-Renault.

2350 MS. DENISE LAROCQUE-RENAULT:

(Translation) Good evening, Mme. Chair, Mr. Commissioner, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Denise Larocque-Renault, and I'm a permanent resident and therefore a taxpayer in Alleyn-and-Cawood. And I would like to specify something here and speak about a letter that the municipality sent in December of 2003. I'll read part of this in English, and my question will be asked in French. (End of translation)

In a municipal newsletter of December, 2003, the municipality of Alleyn-and-Cawood described the community values of Danford Lake as:

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"The environment and atmosphere of the community is an attraction to others, but also something that the residents cherish and wish to hold onto. Danford residents value their slower pace of life, their pristine environment, and exceptional unspoiled beauty of the area".

2365 (Translation) So, my question goes to the municipality of Alleyn-and-Cawood. I'd like to know how a TLS in the municipality can be compatible with the value that was mentioned there.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2370 (Translation) Madam.

MS. KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE:

2375 (Translation) Well, actually, given the legislation, we know that we need a landfill site. It's not necessarily a matter of lowering our values, and I'm not an evaluator. I'm not an assessor, you know. This was a decision on the part of the municipality.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2380 (Translation) Did you ask that question to the city council? Did you ever do so?

MS. DENISE LAROCQUE-RENAULT:

(Translation) On many occasions, but I never got an answer.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, we don't have more of an answer this evening, unless an elected representative wants to add anything, possibly the Assistant Mayor. Sir, can you provide more information? In other words, in the opinion of the municipality, is this in line with the municipality's values? Can you come to the floor, please? Come to the table. He has left, has he? Alright, well, we do not have an answer on the part of the Pro Mayor. Officially, the answer is that a landfill site is required. We just need one. That's the answer.

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MR. BERNARD CHARTRAND:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, I'd like your attention to bear on this issue. So, the municipal council, the city council, must make decisions in terms of water, fire, and this, too, is important. And I'm sad to see that the Mayor is not here, and, therefore, the General Manager might not have all of the answers. And I think that the citizens are not getting the answer that they expected.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, the information we got is that the Mayor is not healthy enough to come. However, the Deputy Mayor or the Pro Mayor could be here. However, it will be extremely important tomorrow that we can come to see who is responsible for what. There is a policy that states that the management plan must be developed in consultation.

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Now, we listened to the municipality, the RCM. You know, the ball goes here, the ball goes there, but who is to decide, and what recourse do citizens have? We're expecting a very clear answer tomorrow on this matter. This is - we're talking about public lands here, and we want to get answers to these questions tomorrow, and expect to be getting them. Mr. Bob Wilson, please, is Mr. Wilson here?

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MR. BOB WILSON:

Mme. Chair, Mr. Commissioner, my name is Bob Wilson. I'm a rate payer in Alleyn-and-Cawood. My question refers to Section 5.3, "Leachate Composition". The report does not show what the leachate composition will be. It states:

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"Leachate composition depends on the composition of residual matter eliminated,

inherent conditions such as temperature, humidity, thickness, compaction level, and residual waste decomposition stage".

2425 The Environment Research Foundation of New Jersey states that Dr. Kirk Brown and Dr. K. C. Donnelly of Texas A and M University carried out extensive research on leachate from fifty-eight (58) different landfill sites, including municipal solid waste sites. They discovered that leachate contains thirty-two (32) chemicals that cause cancer, thirteen (13) chemicals that cause birth defects, and twenty-two (22) chemicals that cause genetic damage.

2430 My question is: What dangerous chemicals would the promoter expect be present in the untreated leachate from the proposed Allyn-and-Cawood landfill? Would it contain the thirty-two (32) chemicals that cause cancer, the thirteen (13) chemicals that cause birth defects, and the twenty-two (22) chemicals that cause genetic damage, which scientific research has confirmed was present in the leachate from the study group of fifty-eight (58) landfills?

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

Mr. Rouleau.

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MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, Mr. Yves Gagnon will be answering this question.

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MR. YVES GAGNON:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, as the gentleman mentioned, of course, we're talking about a new landfill site, a TLS, a technical one. So, indeed, there is a lot of literature on the different characteristics for the leachate on different landfill sites or sanitary landfill sites. I don't know - I'm not familiar with the study that the gentleman has mentioned.

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What is clear is that the Ministry of the Environment does have a very exhaustive data bank for the characteristics of the leachates that are generated by the TLS's in Quebec, since they've been around some fifteen (15) years or so by now. And this does allow us to have some idea of what the situation is.

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So, in this case, this being a new TLS, we, of course, do use the data in existence to come to a proposal as to the way that we can deal with this waste. So, we have to be in line with the standards spelled out by the legislation and regulations and try to be in line with the discharge rate levels spelled out by the Ministry. We want to protect the health of citizens, be it those who might be in contact with the water as they go swimming, for instance, or those who might be eating the fish that can be found in the streams nearby and so forth. So, this is my answer in this regard.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Mr. Mbaraga will be talking both about the regulation and the goals dealing with or the targets as to the discharge. First of all, the regulation, the parameters now that were mentioned a while ago in terms of cancer-causing substances, is this what you take into account, or are those parameters, for instance, dioxins, furans, are these parts - a part of the goals that deal with the discharges?

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MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Mme. Chair, in terms of the first part of the question, Michel will answer. As to the environmental targets in terms of discharges, we have a person in the room who can also field this one.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) We may also be asking Health and Social Services to provide additional information, once your Ministry has answered the question. We're listening to you.

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MR. MICHEL BOURRET:

(Translation) So, the standards, norms, for the discharges, these are technological standards in terms of treatment. And as for the parameters, I would say to characterize the leachate waters - there are other parameters, by the way, that are not part of these standards, but as we take into account these parameters and exercise a certain degree of control, the levels of contamination that can be found in the other parameters ought to be, in fact, low enough to be in line with what is required by the standards.

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We also have targets in terms of other parameters, including parameters that have to do with cancer-causing substances or compounds. We have to understand that the quantities of these compounds are quite minimal. What you actually find in the leachates on the landfill sites is mostly organic, so, nitrogen, ammonia, a few volatile organic compounds, but most of it is actually organic. That is the main source of contamination of the leachate water, and this is controlled, I mean, because we have standards.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Well, you have standards, but in terms of discharges, there are targets in that regard as well? Can you tell us about these? Are we talking about, for instance, the organo-chlorines and whatever has to do with health?

2505 MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) We have a person here, a lady, who will answer this question.

2510 MS. CAROLE LACHAPELLE:

(Translation) Yes, in terms of discharges and the targets, when we deal with this issue, we, of course, have very exhaustive lists of parameters about anything that might be found in untreated leachate. This comes to us from the literature and the characterization obtained on our own sites here in Quebec.

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And we have very broad scopes, as we look at these lists, and then we'll look and see if - and we might find some of these in quantities that might be noxious. So, we're talking about organic substances, and conventional parameters, and nitrogen, water, metals, something else that was mentioned, cancer-causing compounds, PCB's, furans, dioxins. It's quite a broad list, and we

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calculate and come up with targets for the discharges.

In other words, when a discharge winds up in the stream, and we look at the concentration, of course, as compared with maximum values that have been measured there, we'll try and see if we're getting higher OER's, as we call them, which is discharge standards. If they are higher than what you might find in an LES, we're saying, well, we don't really have to be concerned. There isn't a problem.

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Talking about PCB's and furans here, for instance, and chlorines, and these substances can cause a lot of fear, I wouldn't say that leachates contain more than elsewhere in the world. In Quebec, unfortunately, we find these all over the place in the rivers and the streams in trace concentrations, in other words, about one hundred (100) million times less than the milligram per litre. However, we do now have techniques that allow us to detect these.

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Now, for these substances that are said to cancer causing, bio-accumunables, and persistent like PCB's, dioxins, and furans, mercury, and I've forgotten one, we don't authorize any mix. So, after treatment of the leachate, this parameter has to be taken into account.

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We have to look at the concentration. This has to be in line with the criteria for quality water. Even if the treated effluent were to be diluted in the river, even if it were just one drop of this water in the river, it would not be authorized. There can be no dilution.

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And the approach when we deal with the targets for these discharges is based on the characteristics of the discharge, on the characteristics of the environment where it will be found later on after discharge. We have very strict criteria. We compare with what can be found in the stream, in the effluent.

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2550 And in the case of this TLS, as was mentioned in the presentation, the low water flow which is, you know, one (1) year out of ten (10), we'd be getting one (1) out of five hundred (500) as the dilution rate. So, we never give five hundred (500) as the dilution rate. The most that we give for this kind of flow in low water period is one (1) out of a hundred (100).

2555 So, this approach is the very same one, be it if we're talking about a pulp and paper plant or no matter what the discharge is that we're talking about. It's the very same approach. What changes is the characteristic of the effluent and of the environment into which it may flow. So, there is the flow. There is the concentration upstream.

2560 We can talk about metals, of course, but we've taken measurements in the Gatineau River, for instance, I believe in Grand Remous. I'm not sure at which station exactly, and we measured the presence of metals, because metals are part of the rocks that are to be found there. They're in very small amounts, of course, but, naturally, this occurs. Rocks are made of minerals and metals. And so, the problem is always when we get concentrations that are toxic.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2565 (Translation) There is something here that I'm not getting. When you say that you never authorize one (1) out of five hundred (500), but one (1) out of one hundred (100), I mean is it because there is too great a dilution, and you consider that this - I mean, given the fact that there is a situation where a dilution is one (1) out of five hundred (500) for the low water, and your limit is one (1) out of a hundred (100)?

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MS. CAROLE LACHAPELLE:

2575 (Translation) Well, when you calculate dilution, there are many approaches that can be used. One model is known as the Cormix model. We try and simulate the - we didn't take the same kind of measurement that I mentioned a while ago. It's the Cormix model, which is even more strict than the one that deals with low water flow. Dilution is different, but it's one (1) out of two hundred (200), when we use the panache or the plume criteria.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Well, when the effluent comes into the river, for instance, it doesn't instantly get mixed up. There is a zone where the mixes do occur, and this might, you know, last for a while as the water flows, and there's not a perfect mix.

2585 MS. CAROLE LACHAPELLE:

(Translation) Correct.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) So, you take this into account.

MS. CAROLE LACHAPELLE:

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(Translation) We take this into account. And it's easier to talk about flow, but the Cormix model takes into account a lot of other factors: the size of the pipe, its diameter, the temperature of the effluent, that of the environment.

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So, when we calculated our environmental targets for the discharge, we used the Cormix model which is even stricter, and dilution rate would have to be lower, because they see that the plume or the panache that is not across all the river.

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So, the dilution, I mean, when we use the more conservative parameters, very slow rates of flow, for instance, the current would be slow then. So, for the toxics, one (1) out of a hundred and thirty (130) is what we got, a dilution of a hundred and thirty (130), in the more critical parts of the year. So, the effluent would be diluted one hundred and thirty (130) times over.

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So, we are saying that since our criteria are extremely strict and safe, we do authorize a certain dilution in the stream. If there is, I mean if it's - it would be zero dilution in a small agricultural stream, for instance, but I mean the treatment of the effluent has to do its job.

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So, we authorize a certain maximum degree of dilution, but it's a hundred and fifty (150) times the criterion, but if our goal, yes, our environmental objective, our discharge standards, I mean if it's less strict than the regulation, which is the case in this instance, then it is the regulation that would apply, because then we say, well, the technology can allow us to go further than what the environment might be able to deal with.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) In the case of certain parameters, you're saying, because standards were set by regulations, but, in this instance, based on what has been said, would this meet your goals in terms of the discharge? I'm talking about the environmental discharge objectives or goals that you have, based on the information that you have and based on what you believe that the concentration rates would be for the different parameters or the different compounds. Can you assist us?

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MS. CAROLE LACHAPELLE:

(Translation) I cannot do so, because this is the new treatment system that we do not

2630 know as yet. So, it is people who deal with treatment who could talk about this, but, in the
proponent's study, they commit to abiding by the standards and the regulation.

2635 So, all that I can say is that that is what is needed, and we, of course, will follow up and
watch and see and make sure. And if, for certain discharge standards, they went over the limit, we'd
see by how much and how often this occurs in order to act and see how we could readjust.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2640 (Translation) More information on the part of the proponent? The kind of treatment now,
because we're telling - we're being told that this is a new type of treatment, how did you assess the
quality of the discharge?

MR. ANDRE POULIN:

2645 (Translation) Thank you; we did, in fact, decide to use a new technology. It is much more
advanced in terms of treatment than the more simple, usual, conventional technologies that are
used in landfill sites that date back to 1995. So, things have evolved over the past thirteen (13)
years, and we have proposed, and this is described in the impact study assessment study, a new
system for treating these.

2650 And the proof that this technology can meet the environmental standards for discharge and
the criteria spelled out in the regulations that are even stricter than the discharge standards, well, if
you will allow me, Mme. Chair, the experts in leachate treatment and in the technology that we've
opted for, a European technology, by the way, northern Europe, are here. So, if you will allow me, I
would give them the floor, so that they may answer this.

2655 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Yes.

2660 MR. ANDRE POULIN:

(Translation) I'd like to introduce Mr. Richard Rousseau.

MR. RICHARD ROUSSEAU:

2665 (Translation) Good evening, Mme. Chair, now, the technology that we intend to use at
Danford is said to be new. It is new in Quebec. This technology was developed in the 1980's by
Swedes and Norwegians. This is much more effective, efficient, than the technology that we have
here in Quebec.

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In Quebec, generally, we talk about aeration. These are basins that are for a relatively long containment time, and there's a certain degree of aeration to decontaminate the contaminants, so, for nitrogen ammonia, for instance, and so forth.

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So, our technology is much more efficient in terms of a difference in loads and flows. We're talking about using bacteria to oxidize the contaminating materials. So, in a given space, we have more bacteria, and this has been tried out elsewhere in the world around slaughterhouses and in sites that deal with pharmaceutical products and leachates. And there's a site that deals with hazardous waste in Colorado. So, we can oxidate 1,4 Dioxane which is a compound that is very

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toxic, and we can do oxidation of phenols.

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So, the process we're talking about is - consists in using a series of reactors that will, first of all, treat the organic matter using bacteria, then the ammonia nitrogen. And we can adapt to the specific leachate to oxidate contaminants that have a low load, and this can lead to a much more pure water than what is called for by the present regulations.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) How about metals? Is this calculated in a specific way?

MR. RICHARD ROUSSEAU:

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(Translation) Well, where metals are concerned, they are less soluble, if the pH is higher, of course. What generally happens is that there is a certain precipitation that occurs, and a partial simulation of the biomass, but we also expect to be adding chemical products, a flocculant, to agglomerate the biomass and to precipitate the metals into the sludge.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) If we're talking still about metals here, what is the degree of effectiveness of the system that you want to use as compared to the standard system that is now being used here in Quebec? Do you have that information?

MR. RICHARD ROUSSEAU:

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(Translation) The metals react to a chemical process much more than a biological process. This is why we will include a polymer. And through the pH, we will be able to concentrate the metals and have them precipitate in the biomass. Now...

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Is this type of intervention with the adjustment of the pH and the inclusion of

a compound used elsewhere in new TLS's in Quebec?

2715 MR. RICHARD ROUSSEAU:

(Translation) I think they use the old technology, really, to have the metals precipitate. Yves, I don't know if you could answer the question.

2720 Mr. YVES GAGNON:

(Translation) Well, Mme. Chairperson, to my knowledge, and I have been involved on many other TLS projects in the past few years, and as Richard said, most of these places use conventional systems by ponds.

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And what happens most of the time, if you think of zinc, for example, which is standardized in this case, very often it's in a particular state in the leachate. And through filtering, we will manage to meet the discharge levels. It's normally not a problem with the treatment.

2730 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) What led you to choose this technology that is a better technology according to the literature, but is not tried and tested here? Will it withstand our weather conditions?

2735 Mr. YVES GAGNON:

(Translation) I think Mr. Rousseau can give you Quebec's experience. There is one area in Quebec where this technology is used, but I would present this technique as conventional aerated ponds, but that are much more efficient. The technology has been improved with what the inventor of this technology came up with.

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So, the interest in this is that, on the one hand, it can be confined in a building, which allows to treat year around, because one of the most problematic parameters that was not part of the former regulations is ammonia nitrogen, which is much more difficult to treat in cold water. So, with conventional ponds, you cannot meet the standard in the winter.

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So, if you want to use this technique, you have to accumulate the water during the lengthy winter months, and then you have to treat all the water generated during the winter during the six (6) or seven (7) months where it's warmer.

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So, to avoid these problems, we preferred a technology that is more efficient and that can treat the water year round, and that can be confined in a building. So, this facilitates better maintenance of the operations.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) Are the operational costs of this technology lower than conventional treatment? Are there components that you have to change regularly or...

MR. RICHARD ROUSSEAU:

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(Translation) If you'll allow me, the operational cost is similar to conventional technologies. The technology was invented in Norway in the 1980's to treat nitrogen ammonia in the North Sea. The Europeans are much more advanced in this. We picked aerated ponds for economical issues and sewage treatment issues, but the Europeans had problems with nitrogen. So, they used this technology to be much more efficient in a reduced space.

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But as we said earlier, our problem is with nitrogen ammonia, NH₄, that is not easily degradable in cold temperatures. In the past, there was no standard of nitrogen ammonia. So, aerated ponds were sufficient, but new regulations will be enforced shortly. And for nitrogen ammonia, everyone will have to call upon much better technology. It's a biological treatment. So, it's mechanical, really. It will allow us to get a higher bacterial count than in aerated ponds.

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You have here pictures of an aerated system that transfers the air that is made out of stainless steel, and you have grids that confine the bacteria in order to degrade toxic material. The first facilities date back to twenty (20) years ago in Norway, and no equipment had to be changed for the system to be operational.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) And it's used for landfill leachate?

MR. RICHARD ROUSSEAU:

(Translation) It's used for pharmaceutical treatment, food, paper, and on a municipal level as well. We have seen the first municipal facility in Ste. Julie, which is a water treatment facility of municipal level. And in Highland Creek in Toronto as well, there is such a facility. There are many in the United States, especially in Colorado, including one in a dangerous or hazardous waste disposal site, and toxic material is treated through this method. And I think Environment Canada was trying to confine hormone residuals in the water supply as well.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) If you have further information to file on the performance of these systems, could you do so in the coming sessions? Very well, thank you; does this answer your question?

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MR. BOB WILSON:

2800 Well, I was asking them the question about the chemical content in the leachate relative to untreated leachate that will leak through the liners into the ground water was my main concern. The discussion here tended to swing towards the treatment process to treat the bulk of the leachate that would be treated and dumped in the Picanoc River.

2805 I still think it's a very valid point that these extensive studies on fifty-eight (58) landfill sites have confirmed these health damaging chemicals are there and through the leaking liners. A colleague mentioned that liners will leak up to ten (10) gallons per day per hectare. That's a very large number, amount, of leachate leaking through into the ground water untreated. That's my concern, thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2810 (Translation) We understand that ground water is not treated. So, all the parameters - well, you could complete, really. If I've understood correctly, your answer is to the effect that, yes, there is leachate water that filters into the ground water, and it's not treated, correct? And this leachate can contain many chemicals including toxic and cancer-causing chemicals. Are you denying this?

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MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) Mr. Poulin will answer your question, Mme. Chairperson.

2820 MR. ANDRE POULIN:

(Translation) You'll understand, Mme. Chairperson, that if the leaks go through the triple level system, then the leachate will find itself in the ground water. We're talking about two hundred fifty (250) litres a year. The two hundred fifty (250) litres have not been treated, obviously.

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So, the way in which to control that is to go through environmental follow-up. An environmental follow-up or review is done through nine (9) sampling wells all around the perimeter of the site. And if we should notice that there is leakage in excess of the standards, a flag goes off, and we have to intervene.

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However, Mr. Gagnon explained earlier that two hundred fifty (250) litres a year is a dilution of ten thousand (10,000) to twenty thousand (20,000) times more than the flow of ground water. So, two hundred fifty (250) litres in a flow that's twenty thousand (20,000) times greater would be very little concentration.

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However, should there be leakage in excess of the standards, we have to intervene. And then, we can use pumping wells in the meantime until we find the source. We pump the ground water where we found the excessive leakage, and put them through the treatment system that is in place.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) However, the parameters that are measured in those wells in the periphery are the regulated parameters. Are there chlorine organs or other metals or trace elements that could be problematic? Are they standardized or not?

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MR. ANDRE POULIN:

(Translation) The list of parameters in the regulation on ground water quality is much more comprehensive than that of the surface water. Now, if I look at, off the top of my head, we find benzene, which is cancer causing, and the full list of the eight (8) metals, chrome, cadmium, and we find cyanide, oxacillin, the list of the parameters in ground water is much more extensive and strict than the discharge criteria in the receiving area.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Very well, so, for the Environment Ministry now, the criteria for ground water, do they - are they based on drinking water? Do they have to correspond - I can see that my question is interesting as an expert. Is it based on the use intended for this water currently or in the future? For drinking water, I'm thinking.

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MR. JEAN MBARAGA:

(Translation) Mme. Carole Lachapelle will answer your question.

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MS. CAROLE LACHAPELLE:

(Translation) I left too early. I'll come back to what Mr. Poulin said. The ground water criteria were developed on the basis of surface water criteria. So, the lists should be similar. Obviously, ground water can contaminate sewage systems and can migrate towards other streams. So, we based our evaluation on a more severe criteria, and these criteria that are a hundred (100) times greater are now the basic criteria for ground water.

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So, we have a very exhaustive, very comprehensive list based on what was found around technical landfill sites. All the parameters that were found were put on a list. Therefore, the ground water criteria are a sensus, if you will, of everything that can be found in these areas.

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2880 Now, since it's a TLS, it's not treated as if it were another industry. The parameters are specific to TLS's. As I said, we have a comprehensive list. And if we feel that the parameter is not problematic to reach our environmental goals, it's not a follow-up item on the list.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2885 (Translation) Are you here tomorrow during the day? We'll come back to this issue which is very, very technical. Will you be here tomorrow during the day? Good; this is so technical at this time of the day, I think that we're losing people, and we'll close on this issue. There are quite a few more people on the list. I will call them and ask them if you will be there tomorrow by lunch. If you can't be there, then we'll try and answer their questions during the next ten (10) minutes.

2890 Mr. Philippe Champagne, are you here tomorrow? He's gone. Will you be here tomorrow? Mr. Paul Dingledine, tomorrow, yes; Mr. Ed Masotti, tomorrow, yes; Mr. H. Thomson; Ms. Lori-Ann Russett, you cannot be here tomorrow? Then, I would call you to the front of the room. It's your turn. As you're coming forward, Mme. Pam Miles, can you be here tomorrow? A proxy, you'll have a proxy for someone or a written question? Can you be here tomorrow? Tomorrow evening? You
2895 can be here in - you can go to Gatineau. Very well, Ms. Mary Masotti, can you be here at an ulterior session? Yes, good; Mr. Steve Canolli, can you come to Gatineau? Then, we'll listen to your question, Mme. Russett.

MS. LORI-ANN RUSSETT:

2900 Mme. Chair, Mr. Commissioner, my name is Lori-Ann Russett. I'm a permanent resident of Danford Lake. My front steps are approximately thirty (30) feet from the Highway 301 that's proposed for access to the engineered landfill site. In December, 2005, I attended a trip organized by the promoter to Lafèche environmental engineered landfill in Moose Creek.
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Upon arriving, we had the opportunity to ask questions of both the general manager of the site and the owner/operator, Mr. Lafèche. We learned the Lafèche site was a hundred thousand (100,000) tons smaller in annual allowance than the site being considered for Danford Lake.

2910 I asked Mr. Lafèche if the garbage trucks drive through the town of Moose Creek to access his site. He stated that they absolutely did not. He stated further that there had been a preexisting road to his site location, but that would have required the trucks to go through much of Moose Creek. So, he never considered using it. He also stated the people of Moose Creek would have never accepted it. So, he built an independent access.

2915 I explained that Mr. Rouleau intended to access the proposed site in Danford by not only

driving through the heart of one small town, but rather through seven (7) small towns. At that time, Mr. Laflèche stated it was absurd, and we did not have to accept that. To that, the promoter, who was also in attendance, stated an independent access was an impossibility for Danford.

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I would like to know why Mr. Rouleau believes it reasonable to drive through the centre of seven (7) towns some one hundred and twenty (120) plus times a day, when his industry peer would not even consider driving through one small town to access his considerably smaller site.

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MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

(Translation) I'm talking about a site in Ontario just for your information, Mme. Chairperson, and I am not aware of the details, and I'm unaware of the comment made by the proponent of that site. Now, should we try to avoid the village and go through rural routes? Perhaps it's possible. However, I know that this site is served by a provincial road, which is our case here. 105, 148, and 301 are all provincial routes.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) That is not an answer to the question.

MS. LORI-ANN RUSSETT:

I didn't hear the translation.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) The proponent cannot compare both situations.

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MS. LORI-ANN RUSSETT:

I'm interested with his answer just on one point in particular, where he says he's not familiar with the details. First of all, he was there on the trip. He organized it. And, secondly, he took us to the site. So, he knows that, you know, that's how the site is accessed.

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My concern is that he took us to a site with - that was run by someone that he must respect. He took us there as an example, and then doesn't agree that we deserve the same consideration that the people who bordered that site deserve. Sorry, just further, you said that it might be a possibility to have a bypass route by Danford? What about the other seven (7) or the other six (6) towns that are going to be going right through the heart of the towns?

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MR. DENIS ROULEAU:

2960 (Translation) Mme. Chairperson, access to that site was Road 418 or 417, which is a four (4) way or four (4) lane road, and this brought us to Road 138 that led us to that site. It's the only access for that site.

2965 Now, as far as bypassing all seven (7) municipalities and without going through the trucking roads and not going through the municipalities, I mean a bypass road of a hundred (100) kilometres would be very difficult to build.

MS. LORI-ANN RUSSETT:

2970 I guess this is an argument for saying that this is the wrong place to put your landfill. I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to state my opinion. It's difficult.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2975 (Translation) You're now stating an opinion. However, if you have other questions and that you cannot come to another session, please write them down, and we will deal with them for you. If you can't do it tonight, you can send them to the commission perhaps tomorrow, but I would invite you to write your questions down, if you can't come back, and we will address them.

MS. LORI-ANN RUSSETT:

2980 Thank you very much for your time.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

2985 (Translation) Are the interpreters allowing us to take another question, any other questions? I would also ask you to write your questions down, and we will deal with your questions during the coming sessions. We will resume tomorrow at one (1:00). We will continue with our questioning. And everything that is said will be available in French and English in the verbatim. Thank you very much for this session.

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I, Annagret Rinaldi, the undersigned Official Court Reporter, do hereby certify, under my oath of office, that the foregoing is a true transcription of the proceedings as taken at the BAPE public hearings.

2995

AND I HAVE SIGNED :

ANNAGRET RINALDI, o.c.r.

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