

**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**

SECOND PHASE

VOLUME 5

Hearing held June 15, 2007, 13 h
Salle récréative d'Otter Lake
394 Tessier
Otter Lake

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MS. CLAUDETTE JOURNAULT,
THE CHAIRWOMAN:

5 (Translation) Welcome to the fifth public hearing of the second part concerning the project
to establish a technical landfill site in the Danford Lake. And this afternoon we have six (6) persons
who will be presenting their opinion who have registered. And remember that it is always possible
to register and to come and give an opinion, but you have to give your name to the coordinator of
10 the Commission or to Mr. Jean Sébastien Fillion in order for them to be able to speak and... for you
to be able to speak.

 At the end of this, there will be a period of correcting, of correction, an opportunity to
correct facts. And we're asking you at that point to only correct facts which are untrue and not to
present ideas that arise from context or further opinions, because it cannot be a form of rebuttal, it
15 must be simply a correction of an incorrect, inaccurate fact. If the people wish to correct something
that they gave in their own brief or in someone else's brief, if you feel that something... if you feel
that you need, however, to give something more detailed or more precise, you can do that until
next Wednesday by writing. And so complementary briefs can be presented until Friday next.

20 So only those who have presented a brief can complete their opinion with a supplementary
brief, because there are documents that came in until recently, so we understand that you perhaps
have not had time to become aware of some of these documents, and it's important that you be
able to give your opinion on everything that has been seen here.

25 So before we begin, I will ask Mr. André Poulin to perhaps come to the front and to explain
what the business has tabled as information this morning to answer the request of the public that
wanted to have more details on the number of residences or homes and cottages that are in the
two- and four-kilometre radius, and farms as well. So please explain what you have tabled, sir.

30 MR. ANDRE POULIN:

 (Translation) Good day, Madame Chair and MR. Commissioner, and good day to
everyone. We have added today by electronic... by e-mail to the BAPE and to the department a
map that is much more complete than the map which is presently being shown, and we have
35 added the places in which there are at present residences. The three (3) places which are
indicated on the map right now are secondary residences, cottages, along the Picanoc, as you had
asked during the first phase of the public hearings.

 Last night you asked us to add, in addition, the areas in which there are agricultural

40 zones around the site. In fact, there are two (2), and so we have added them to the site plan which
is shown. And in addition, we have added aerial photography, recent aerial photography, from the
year two thousand (2000), which had been published in two thousand and one (2001) and which
allows us to see... gives a bird's-eye view of the site and of Route 301, the agricultural zones and
the cottages.

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And also, another bit of information that is not there, the secondary residences, because
these are not residences that are inhabited year round, that are the closest to the landfill site along
the 301. These homes, as you know, have been... the promoter has offered to buy them
conditional on having the authorization to have the site.

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And so, this information has already been sent electronically, but I'm expecting twelve (12)
copies this afternoon and I've asked a messenger from our Gatineau office to please bring them up
to us. And so, as soon as we have them, Madame Chair, I will give them to you so that you can
show them and so that people here in the audience can see visually exactly what it is we have
55 tabled. Thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) So we will now welcome Madame Lori Ann Russett, please.

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MS. LORI ANN RUSSETT:

Madame Chair, Commissioner Labrie.

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(Presentation of brief)

I have included in my brief fifteen (15) suggestions for modifications to the project. I realize
that there are necessary time restraints, so if you prefer, I will simply allow them to be read by you
at a later date and not present them at this time.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, we have a little bit more time this afternoon, so you can present the
ones that you consider the most important, perhaps. Please take ten (10) minutes. Please give
75 the numbers to help the interpreters.

Ms. LORI ANN RUSSETT:

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Madame Chair, I think I'm going to have great difficulty deciding which are the most
important, I haven't done them in that order. To me they're all critically important.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, give it a try.

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Ms. LORI ANN RUSSETT:

Okay.

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(Presentation of brief)

MR. DONALD LABRIE

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) In your recommendations you are saying that if the project goes forward, that the department minister and the minister should not allow to receive more than fifty thousand (50,000) tons a year. If that was retained, would it make it acceptable, or at least a little more acceptable, or does it still remain unacceptable for you?

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MS. LORI ANN RUSSETT:

I don't feel that this is the right place, I don't feel that it's the right technology, and I don't think that I would be very happy with it going through at all. The reason that I am suggesting that it needs to be a much smaller amount is to ensure that the promoter would be required to act professionally and the community would have an opportunity to see him behave in a more, excuse the expression, but respectable manner. The community does not have a high regard for his ethics at this time and I think it would... he needs to prove himself.

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That being said, I would completely prefer that the ministry allow time to seriously consider options that I feel are much, much better. So I don't think he should be allowed to proceed at any cost.

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THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) We have noticed the big wound that was caused in the social fibre of the community that have happened during the last few years. Do you believe that it's possible to re-establish an harmonious approach so that the people can socialize once again and say that there's no problem and that the community becomes united again? How can you do this? How can it be done?

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Ms. LORI ANN RUSSETT:

I have spent some time thinking about that myself, and I think that likely the only way that

125 we can hope to regain some of what we had before this occurred would be if both sides of the table
were brought together and brought to mediation so that they could have an opportunity to express
to each other how they're feeling, their rationale for proceeding the way that they have, and I think
that would go a long way to healing wounds.

130 This town, before this project, was an extraordinary place and full of people who have
enormous hearts, and I think that given the right condition, they most certainly could come back to
that. But I think they need to be brought together. The tendency has been for one side to avoid
listening to the other, almost from the moment that they realized they had different opinions, and I
don't think any reconciliation can occur unless they're forced to listen, really listen, to each other.

135 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you very much.

140 Ms. LORI ANN RUSSETT:

Thank you for the opportunity.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

145 (Translation) Now we have Mrs. Mary Masotti.

MRS. MARY MASOTTI:

150 Mme Chair, MR. Commissioner. My name is Mary Masotti and I have a recreational
property on Neil Lake, which is approximately six (6) kilometres as the seagull flies from the
proposed dump.

155 My interest in this project stems from my concern for the environment and for the cottage
life my husband and I have created for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. Four (4)
generations of my family have been coming to our cottage, and I hope to be around to see the fifth
generation enjoy it in the pristine situation that it is now.

160 I feel strongly that this project will put everyone in the community at a risk, not only from the
105, but from the degradation of the environment and the quality of life this project would cause.

The Municipality of Alleyn-and-Cawood is geographically the largest municipality in the
MRC Pontiac, but has one of the smallest populations. There are approximately a hundred and
eleven (111) full-time residents in the village and about two hundred and sixty-eight (268)

additional recreational rate payers, not including their families.

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A mere one-hour drive from downtown Ottawa, and even less from Gatineau, this area has been a popular retreat for city dwellers for over one hundred (100) years. The demand for recreational properties continues to grow and the location, with its many lakes and beautiful hills, is a dream for anyone in the National Capital Region who is looking for that special piece of God's

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country. LDC has portrayed the community as a tiny village in an area of forestry and agriculture where one hundred percent (100%) of its residents, desperate for some extra tax revenue and possibly a few jobs, have given them full support. It is, in fact, a community where most of its residents, full-time and recreational, agree that the project will bring real and unnecessary dangers to the community and to those settlements along the route to the dump.

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I would like to read for you excerpts from various community documents. Minutes from the monthly council meeting held June fifth (5th), nineteen eighty-five (1985):

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"Whereas the Municipality of Allevyn-and-Cawood in its Planning Program By-Law 11-91 with its amendment By-Law 16-91 has defined the specific area of Range VI lots 7 & 8 as Recro-Touristic."

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"Whereas it is in the interest of the future of this Municipality that the government, either on a provincial level or a municipal level, maintain some control on the natural environment within its domain for future inhabitants;"

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"Whereas the superficies of Range VI lots 7 & 8 includes access to both sides of the Picanoc River. This river historically has been the main source of recreation in privately owned tourism establishment;"

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"Whereas in keeping with our planning program in developing our forestry treasuries;"
"It is unanimously resolved and carried by Gerald Stevenson, and seconded by Shelley Wilson, to recommend to the Ministry of Natural Resources that the above mentioned properties remain as Crown Land for a possible future site of a Nature Trail which the municipality would develop and maintain opened to general public."

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In its Vision Statement in nineteen ninety-eight (1998), the municipality declares its wishes:

"to enhance the quality of life in Danford Lake for all citizens. Believing that together we can achieve a safer, cleaner and sustainable environment and community."

205 They further defined "Sustainable Development" as:

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

210 From the municipal newsletter of December two thousand and three (2003):

"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 Lake Residents value their slower pace of life, their pristine environment and exceptional unspoiled beauty of the area."

215 When you examine these statements, a mega dump is not what this community aspires to. A dump represents a land use that is contrary to the vision of the community to provide development that is both economically beneficial and harmonious with the ecological and recreational value of the area.

220 In the allotted time I would like to highlight some of the issues that I've addressed in my brief. Cultural: the population of Alveyn-and-Cawood is comprised of two (2) communities, with somewhat overlapping cultures. Permanent residents, many of whom work on the land, are also recreational users of the land. The forests and rivers, especially the Picanoc, provide them with fish and game and recreational pastimes. For local families, the Picanoc was so important to them that they bought up tracts of land along the river to reserve a piece of their heritage before it was bought by outsiders.

230 Recreational property owners, on the other hand, drive these dangerous roads to the family cottage to enjoy the outdoor activities as well all year round. For these two (2) communities to accept any project, it requires community participation and meaningful consultation. As well, social acceptability of any project is dependent upon transparency, access to information and an open process.

235 The failure of the mayor, council and proponent to bring the community together adequately to openly discuss and evaluate the project has had a damaging effect on the population, on the community relations and their quality of life. In short, the community has been torn apart. Should the project be approved, the ensuing loss in the quality of life will only deepen the division and mistrust.

240 When looking at the impact of a project, the question of equity must be addressed. Equity revolves around three (3) main principles; do positive impacts outweigh negative impacts? Do those who bear the cost also reap the benefits or have access to the wealth generated by the project? And, 3, are the costs and/or benefits equally distributed between the stakeholders locally and regionally?

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Economic: there is no question that the community needs jobs. Jobs and the two-dollar-a-ton donation to the community are reasons given for hosting a mega dump in Alleyn-and-Cawood. Other reasons given are the cost to recycle, shipping the village garbage outside the region and monitoring the current trench dump for twenty (20) years.

The mayor on a couple of occasions indicated that the cost of exporting garbage plus monitoring the old trench dump each year for twenty (20) years would cost the community a hundred (100) to a hundred and twenty-five thousand (125,000) a year. Let's do some math. The two thousand and seven (2007) budget is five hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000.00), tax revenues are up this year from two thousand and six (2006) forty-seven and a half percent (47½%).

At Mont Ste. Marie LDC said each person produces, after recycling, point seven five (.75) tons of waste a year. Permanent residents in Danford Lake total a hundred and eleven (111) people as of the last census, therefore... therefore, according to LDC, the community of Danford Lake will produce eighty-three point two five (83.25) tons of disposable waste per year, which is close to what is estimated for Alleyn-and-Cawood in the MRC Pontiac's waste management plan.

Following through with LDC's projected cost of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) a ton to ship to Lachute, the annual budget required to send Danford Lake's waste to Lachute is sixteen thousand six hundred and fifty dollars (\$16,650.00) or three percent (3%) of the annual budget.

Thorne, a municipality in the Pontiac, has a population of four hundred and eight (408) full-time residents. Their trench landfill was mined and taken to Lachute for a one-time cost of thirty-seven thousand dollars (\$37,000.00). If Danford Lake did the same at an estimated one-time cost of perhaps thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00), this would be more economical than monitoring the dump for twenty (20) years. What am I missing?

Jobs: what are the alternatives to a few jobs at the dump? The potential is there for tourism and eco-tourism, the area is rich in lakes and many are undeveloped. Retiring baby boomers are looking for recreational properties and soft adventure, and Alleyn-and-Cawood has the supply to meet the demand. If land developers were encouraged to come into the community and develop lakefront properties, jobs would follow, including further tax revenues for the municipality. Should the municipality encourage their young people to apprentice in the trades, this would give them employable skills that would be useful locally and away. A mega dump does not reconcile with the potential for growth and jobs, especially in tourism.

Real estate values: if each person here were truly honest and had a choice, would they choose to buy property near a dump? Have the residents of Danford Lake even been given a choice? Our biggest and most emotional purchase in life is our home. The one that lives in our hearts is our cottage.

290 Major real estate companies serving the Outaouais were asked to provide in writing the
 impact of the proposed dump on real estate values in Allevyn-and-Cawood. Off the record, they
 indicated that despite a strong demand for cottage properties, the market had already softened in
 Danford Lake on the news of the proposed dump. They further indicated that there could be a
 substantial loss in property values should the project be approved. Because of the effect this
 would have on their ability to make their living, they declined to put this in writing.

295 LDC claims there will be no impact on real estate values, and support this with a study
 published in nineteen ninety-one (1991). The study does not reflect our reality. This is not
 nineteen ninety-one (1991). And the small landfills of the past are being replaced by mega
 landfills. Mega landfills come with a mega environmental price tag and the public is beginning to
 300 notice and speak out. And in doing so, are forcing their governments to embrace cleaner solutions.

305 You must also differentiate the purchase of a recreational property with the purchase or
 ownership of a family home. The study submitted by LDC addresses residential dwellings. The
 location of a family home is dependent on many factors; proximity to schools, churches,
 employment, family or, in the case of many in the village, they've inherited their homes. This is
 their community. When it comes to recreational property, buyers can afford to be discriminating,
 and if one location is not suitable, they can look elsewhere and they will look elsewhere.

310 The villagers do not want to make a choice to look elsewhere, and rightly so. As you have
 heard, many were born in the village and want to continue to live in the village. Living elsewhere is
 not an option for them.

315 Local business and future investors: many of the local businesses depend not only on
 local patrons, but on the money brought into the community by cottage owners and tourists.
 Because of the proximity of the village to Gatineau and Ottawa, the demand for recreational
 property, the potential to bring in more business and create more employment opportunities is
 huge.

320 Politicians at all levels of government have stated that the potential for tourism and eco-
 tourism in the Outaouais is enormous, however do landfills make good neighbours for other
 industries? Robert Bullard, director of the environmental Justice Resource Centre at Clark Atlanta
 University, has stated that the locality of one (1) waste disposal facility tends to attract others and
 can unintentionally discourage cleaner industries, thus a landfill could restrict economic prospects
 without providing offsetting advantages. Aggressive marketing could break this area wide open to
 325 tourism, eco-tourism and land development, but the potential is threatened by the possibility of a
 mega dump.

Health impacts: you've heard from the testimony of the gentleman from Cantley and the

330 gentleman formerly from Lachute that residents who live near mega dumps are concerned about
more than money. For them, these dumps bring noise, odours, pests, litter, air pollution, water
pollution and dangerous truck traffic. These impacts are not in harmony with the vision of the
community of Danford Lake or for the potential for the area.

335 Because so much has been said and written in many of these briefs about negative health
impacts, I will not discuss them here again, but invite you to review them in my brief.

340 In conclusion, the residents of Alleyn-Cawood feel a complete loss of control over their
future. Should this project be approved, they will be forced to accept the garbage of strangers from
outside their tiny community at the expense of their quality of life. The impacts will be difficult,
relentless and unnecessary. Solutions are already in place for the short-term. Existing landfills,
such as Lachute and Ste. Sophie, are able to accept Outaouais garbage. In fact, most of the
Outaouais garbage already goes to these locations. Lachute has a capacity of five hundred
thousand (500,000) tons a year. Why approve a new landfill with a capacity of two hundred and
fifty thousand (250,000) tons a year as a short-term solution? Where will it stop? Does Quebec
345 want to entertain proposals from every private investor who wants to open a dump? I would say
that the answer is no.

350 We must also ask ourselves whether we should approve a project that does not meet the
principles for economic development as stated in le plan de developpement durable du Quebec,
which is Quebec's economy needs to perform in respect of the environment with as goals
innovation and prosperity favourable to social progress.

355 The community of Danford Lake is at a crossroad. Will they be allowed to go forward and
embrace the benefits of tourism and recreation, and in do so, fulfill the values in their Mission
Statement? Or will they be forced to accept the role of dumping ground, which will destroy the
area's natural resources, the very thing that keeps them and us here?

360 Preserving the natural environment is a responsibility we share with our neighbours and a
legacy we leave for our children. To intentionally allow a project to harm the fragile balance would
be to ignore the environmental aspects of the past and say to future generations that the people of
two thousand and seven (2007) simply didn't care.

365 We can do better, we must do better. Do not let their field of dreams take away our
dreams. Thank you for your time.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

Thank you.

370 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) I would have a question, ma'am. You recommend that given the low costs of additional transport costs that would be included by sending the garbage to Lachute, that you recommend this. Would you recommend sending to Lachute as a temporary solution or a long-
375 term solution? Is there a regional need for a... somewhere for treatment of waste material here in the region, in your opinion?

MS. MARY MASOTTI:

380 I propose it as a temporary solution. I think that a couple of the MRCs in Gatineau have worked on this deadline for a few years, and as they've told you, they have other solution, and the Danford dump is not their solution.

I think that the Pontiac, for whatever reason, are a little bit behind in their planning and I
385 don't think that this community should be sacrificed in the short-term when we're on the verge of solutions that could be implemented in the very near future. So I'm only recommending that this be a temporary solution, going to Lachute. I don't think the cost is as onerous as we're being led to believe. I think with some transfer stations and some work among all of the MRCs, the costs could be kept down. I don't think... I don't think this community deserves to be used as a short-term
390 dumping ground, and I think once all that is open, there's no closing it down, and it just... it just is open to abuse of the community.

THE COMMISSIONER:

395 (Translation) Thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Ma'am, do you believe that it could be useful if, for example, an advisory
400 committee of volunteers could work with the Pontiac MRC to... precisely to bring about the integration of the objectives, first of all, reaching the goals and objectives of the policy -- because right now the MRC is really late in this aspect -- and to work with your municipality to re-establish the social harmony. We have seen in other regions there have been committees of economic optimization that have been set up, and this has precisely been an opportunity to do networking,
405 very interesting networking, between the permanent communities and the communities of vacationers, so that the two (2) communities could come together and develop in harmony.

Is there some... do you think that there's some exploring we could do in this direction?

410 MS. MARY MASOTTI:

I absolutely agree that this is a possibility if it would be accepted. I think we've

demonstrated, the cottages have demonstrated a very good overview of the whole situation. We've done our homework over the last year, I know more about garbage now than I ever wanted
415 to know about garbage. But I think that a number of us are retired, we have a passion for this situation, we have a lot of good ideas, we come from business backgrounds, we're energized because we're retired, we don't have children to worry about, we're comfortable, and we're enthusiastic. And I'd really like to see that happen.

420 And I would also like to see the people in the communities being given some ownership. I don't think they've been given any opportunity to have a say. I think listening to Ms. Heeney the other day saying, "Listen to the people that are part of the land, they know the land so well", and I think that they have a lot of credibility and I think if we could have some opportunity to bring everyone together, I think that we could solve this problem.

425 And I really don't think that if you go forward to the minister, I think you should say that a small community of a hundred and eleven (111) people should not be penalized because all the work hasn't been done in time. Deadlines can be moved, but a community will be hard to be repaired.

430 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you. Thank you for your testimony. Madame Irma Peck and MR. Roy Peck. Good afternoon. So in order to give us all a chance here, when I will put my hand up like
435 this, please take time, take a little break before going on to the next sentence. This will help the transcribers, because we're losing information here when people don't do that. Thank you very much. So leave a space between sentences.

MRS. IRMA PECK:

440 I will try.

(Presentation of brief)

445 MR. ROY PECK:

(Presentation of brief)

MRS. IRMA PECK:

450 (Presentation of brief)

And I'd like to thank you, Madame and MR. Commissioner, for being able to express myself here. And I'd like to apologize if some of us have not behaved the way we should, I think

455 it was a misunderstanding, and I'd like to, you know, say that I'm sorry if anything wasn't done properly. And thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

460 (Translation) So in general, I would say that the people were respectful, they respected one another, given the high level of emotion on this file. So I think there is goodwill on the part of each side, so we're going to continue to work in that vein. (End of translation) People will be explained certainly during the break what I had said.

465 MRS. IRMA PECK:

That's fine. That's all.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Regarding Mount O'Brien, have you talked to your elected members of the Government of Quebec or the Canadian Government to protect the mount? What was done until now and what was the answer of these members of parliament, whether Canada or Quebec?

475 MR. ROY PECK:

I'm sure later on this evening, when more people speak, that they can answer this question better than I can. They will have better answers and they're more familiar with that part of it.

480 MRS. IRMA PECK:

But they are trying to have status and they have a protected area, and they will be presenting a brief later today or tomorrow, I'm not sure just when. But it's a beautiful mountain and they, you know, they've been working, making trails and having hikes. The unfortunate part is from
485 the top you will see the dump, which... okay? But they will be presenting a brief and you'll see it, okay?

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

490 (Translation) So thank you so much for your testimony.

MRS. IRMA PECK:

Thank you.

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MR. ROY PECK:

Thank you.

500 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) So we're asking Mrs. Gisèle Beaudin-Peck.

505 MS. GISELE BEAUDIN-PECK:

(Translation) Good afternoon, Mrs. Chair and MR. Commissioner.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

510 (Translation) As I said earlier, just look at me and occasionally I will tell you if you should slow down for the translation, because I will be there to help you.

MS. GISELE BEAUDIN-PECK:

515 (Translation) I have a second part that was not registered, it's just a solution.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

520 (Translation) Just go ahead. It's important to take the time so that it will be properly translated. I will show you with my hand if you should take pauses between your sentences.

MS. GISELE BEAUDIN-PECK:

525 (Translation) My name is Gisèle Beaudin-Peck, I live in Danford Lake, and on Route 301, six (6) kilometres from the project. I moved there in nineteen ninety (1990). It's a beautiful project with jobs and thousands of dollars per year for the village of Danford Lake. But in the meantime, did someone think of the mental health and social health of our village?

530 Everything seemed perfect for as long as there was no opposition. When the information became clearer, part of the population was asking questions and at that point is asking more information. The gap between the pros and the cons widens. No one dares saying the word "site", "disposal site" or "LET" or "TLS" for fear to provoke a fight. So this is when all the businesses, organization and group decided to remain neutral.

535 Certain citizens and the outside pressure forced these businesses or groups to take position under the possibility of retaliation, which caused conflicts amongst the population. Those

more aggressive committed some reprehensible acts that are not approved by the majority of the group.

540 Many people are not even aware of what's really happening. I have asked several of them what they thought, and the answers that I received were they will claim the old dump and they will maintain it, the village will be rich, no more need to increase the taxes. At last, we're going to have more jobs. So they're promising us the construction of a residence for older people. We don't care, the place is ideal, it's in the woods, no one will even know what's happening for... it's bringing
545 in some money.

So as you can see, the population really needs to understand and needs more information. So please, before accepting such a project, the municipality, the RCM and all the levels of government must stop, sit back and really take the... come up with the best solution for our village.

550 Our corner of the world was known as God's country, but now we should call it Devil's country. We're often complaining about our ancestors for having made the wrong decision and made some mistakes, but today we are paying for it. Well, let's not do the same thing to our descendants. My greatest wish is to see my corner of the world gain back the peacefulness that it
555 used to have and where it was good to live.

I want to say, make a comment on the syndrome of "not in my yard". About two (2) years ago I listened a program on "Descouvertes" and they showed a program on incineration in Sweden. What impressed me the most was the cleanliness of the area, a huge plant with trees
560 and flowers all around, and we didn't even know that this building was a treatment centre for garbage. The trucks that came in full at one extremity, an extremity of one of the buildings, and would come out on the other side, they'd been cleansed and disinfected. So I conclude that they had embellished the scenario to make it look better for the documentary.

565 A friend of mine went to visit the Brampton site and brought a lot of photos and information. What confirmed me that I was wrong of the truthfulness of the documentary that I had seen, because if the engineers would offer us to the cities, municipalities, a project that is similar to this instead of having a mountain of garbage that smells terrible and very badly... makes a place look terrible, the municipality would be very happy to accept such a project.

570 We have to stop complaining about the garbage and appreciate their value. They are a source of revenue and of income for a lot of people.

575 And that is all I have to say.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) We're going to... have a little bit of water if you want.

580 THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) Don't worry, we're not going to be asking you some really terrible questions. In the village of Otter Lake, what you hear in the conversation from your friends or for those who were your friends, what concerns them the most when you refer to this technical dump site?

585

MS. GISELE BEAUDIN-PECK:

(Translation) It's the transportation, the odours. Where I live, it's the first hill going up past the village. In the winter, the trucks cannot go up the hill, they have to back down and go back up again. Last year there was a fire on the 301 and in no time the smoke was above the whole village. Imagine what the odours are going to be like; they're going to come right above the village, because they will go up.

590

THE COMMISSIONER:

595

(Translation) Thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

600

(Translation) So we're going to take fifteen (15) minutes, and there are two (2) more people after that.

RECESS

605

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Madame Alexa Pritchard.

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

610

Good afternoon, Madame Chair, MR. Commissioner. I guess I first have to comment on the incredible view that we have from this room, very delightful.

(Presentation of brief)

615

This is a canoe trip that my friends and I took about a month ago. The entry was at number 1 on the map located at the back of the room, it's a very commonly-used entry. And within minutes of getting in the canoe, you will see on the horizon the spot where the dump is proposed to be.

620

(DVD slide show presented)

625 This is what you will see, right in that area right here. This is where the leachate will go into the creek and into the Picanoc. This is the dump site. Notice the water. And more water. And more water. More water. Natural bog. That's the water table. There's the well and the water table. See, it's not deep. Sandy soil. The water table. On this picture, you can't miss it, there's a rare blue duck right there. This is the rare lobelia cardinalis, grows all along the banks of the river. Enjoy. Please stop the dump. Thank you.

630 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you for your testimony.

635 MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

Okay.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

640 (Translation) Mr. Paul Dingledine. I never get it. I will have to come back, maybe I'll learn to say it properly.

MR. PAUL DINGLEDINE:

645 Thank you, Madame Chair and Mr. Commissioner. I've asked Michele Borchers to sit behind me and to kick me every time I go too fast. And she will.

650 My name is Paul Dingledine, I live on Highway 301, about two (2) kilometres from Danford Lake. I'm opposed to this landfill for many reasons, you've heard all week long. Like most others here, I worry about the air pollution, the water pollution, the attraction of animals, especially gulls. But my biggest concern is truck traffic. The noise from trucks passing my property is already a significant annoyance to me. Adding over one hundred (100) trucks per day to the truck traffic that is already there will seriously affect the quality of the time that I spend in this beautiful part of Quebec.

655 We have heard a lot about trucks this week; nobody likes the ones we have and nobody wants more, but in the next few minutes, I'd like to talk a little bit about why we don't like trucks and why we don't want more. And I'll deal with four (4) impacts that the trucks have; noise, vibration, air pollution and litter.

660 First, noise. When we discussed this at the first stage of the BAPE hearings, MR. Rouleau in his opening presentation said that mitigating factors for noise from trucks would

665 include enforcing the speed limit used by the drivers and improving the road surface and the road conditions by the Ministry of Transport. Both of these would be nice, but we could take very little comfort from that because LDC does not have the authority or the power to be able to do that, or even influence that.

670 We also discussed at those hearings the study that was done on truck noise by Teknika. There, too, we don't find much comfort. The study concluded that the increase in noise levels would be insignificant. This was not a very credible result, in our view. Also, some elements of the study were, I think, seriously misleading.

675 The methodology used for the study measures the noise of a truck passing by, and then averages this noise over a period of time. This average noise is then compared with an estimate of the average noise they feel would result from the additional trucks. The trouble is that the human ear does not average, it hears what it hears when it hears it. So the methodology used for this study might make sense if you were studying the constant roar of a four-lane or six-lane highway, but as a measurement of intermittent noise or huge jumps in intermittent noise by a passing truck is not very useful.

680 Working from Teknika's data, from the measurements they took, the noise level when a truck passes increases by a factor of about sixteen (16). In other words, the loudness is sixteen (16) times higher when the truck is there than it is when the truck is not there. In fact, if you're closer to the road, that would be many times more than sixteen (16). But if this peak noise is going to be reached one hundred and twenty-two (122) times a day, it's not credible to suggest no one will notice.

690 One of the recommendations that I would make would be to the Ministry of Transport, that they should find a model, a methodology, that is a much truer, fairer measurement of the annoyance, irritation caused by intermittent noise.

695 Where the study is misleading is in the actual noise levels measured. The data was collected too far from the highway, many homes are closer to the highway than where they took the measurements, and it points on level ground, where the trucks were not accelerating or decelerating, when they make much more noise.

In most collection points, only one (1) hour of the day was studied, so as a result, the noise levels taken cannot be considered representative of the noise that we are currently experiencing.

700 Now, you will recall that we discussed this with Teknika in the first phase of the hearings, and Teknika explained that they were only measuring the noise before and after and comparing the two (2), and therefore it did not matter where they measured the noise or how long they measured it for, because they were just looking... the difference between before and after would

be the same wherever... whether it was on a hill or wasn't on a hill.

705

The trouble with this, as I said, is that the data collected seriously understates the noise that we're experiencing now. And I find it odd that you will be going back to Quebec City without any information or any figures on what the actual noise levels are. You don't have that because nobody gave it to you. Nobody gave it to you because nobody collected it, and nobody collected it because nobody requested it. So a second recommendation I would make to the Ministry of Environment is they should, for projects such as this, require that a fair survey be done of the noise levels that currently exist right there.

710

Finally on noise, I would like to point out that noise is a health hazard in addition to being an irritation. Studies have shown that noise can cause irritability, stress, indigestion, ulcers, high blood pressure and many other medical conditions that are too long to list here. Enough for noise.

715

My second concern is the vibrations caused by trucks. Again, at the first session of these hearings, Teknika read into the record a quotation from a National Research Council study on the impact of traffic vibrations on buildings. The quotation selected suggested that vibration was only one (1) dimension affecting the structural integrity of buildings, and was rarely the major one. Subsequently, Teknika provided you with this document.

720

This study, this NRC study, is quite useful. It acknowledges that damage to buildings from traffic vibration is a very common complaint in Canada, and it lists the factors affecting the amount of vibration that a building feels. Some of these factors are the roughness of the road, potholes, cracks, the distance of the building from the road, vehicle weight, vehicle speed, and there are a number of others.

725

But those four (4) factors in particular are very important on Highways 105 and 301. The poor condition of the highway, the constant abuse of the speed limits and the proximity of the homes to the road, some as close as two (2) meters, mean that the vibration suffered by buildings on Highways 105 and 301, especially 105, would be worse than they would be on other highways.

730

The NRC also notes that the nature of the building construction and the existing condition of the building are major factors in the effect of vibrations, that's the homes that will be affected most are the ones that are old or in poor condition. But these are heritage homes, those are the ones that are located closest to the road. They are historical buildings, yet they are the ones that will suffer the most damage.

735

Now, there was another brief submitted to you on vibrations by a colleague from Kazabazua, who cannot speak to that brief because she is out of town. But if you permit me, I would like to read just a couple sentences from that brief.

740

745 They were talking here about Irwin's General Store in Kazabazua, it's right in the middle of
Kazabazua, you've passed it many times, it's an old building. And we're talking about the plate
glass windows on the front of the store. The original windows were installed in nineteen o two
(1902) and were still in existence in nineteen eighty (1980) -- this is from the brief -- however, with
the advent of the increased truck traffic, they shattered and were replaced by single-unit double
750 thermopanes. I don't know how that translates in French, but... these also shattered and were
replaced by thermopanes resting on vibration damping rubber blocks. They in turn broke. And the
windows are now insulated, double-paned, tempered glass, resting on continuous rubber blocks
embedded in a layer of silicon.

755 Along with the glass breaking, the mortar in the brick cracked so severely as to cause a
liability problem, and all of the bricks had to be removed from the front facade of the building. The
front was re-bricked in nineteen eighty-five (1985), however the cracking recurred and the facade
had to be removed and re-bricked a second time.

760 That's all I will read from that brief, but it gives an example of the work and the expense
that a homeowner, in this case a business owner, has to go through. Insurance does not cover
that, insurance would not cover damage from vibrations.

765 Now my third area of concern is air pollution. Trucks are notorious polluters, very few of
them use the catalytic, or the type of catalytic converters that are installed on cars. I quote from
one (1) American study, quote:

770 *"While heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles, including garbage trucks, make up only seven
percent (7%) of vehicles on the road, they contribute sixty-nine percent (69%) of on-road fine
particulate pollution and forty percent (40%) of nitrogen-oxide emissions."*

775 In my written brief I also quote a lot of studies in North America and Europe which show
that people living in close proximity to the highways have a lot of health problems, especially from
the trucks. Some of the problems caused by the traffic shown in these studies were asthma, lung
disease, chronic breathing problems and premature births. Sizable increases of seventy-five
percent (75%) or more in the number of trucks on our road would affect the health of all the people
living along that road.

780 The trucks also, of course, contribute in a major way to greenhouse gasses. To minimize
this problem, this pollution, the distance travelled by waste should be as short as possible. And it is
hoped that when the City of Gatineau and the Outaouais, the other communities in the Outaouais,
find the long-term solution that we've been talking about this week, that that solution will place the
disposition of the garbage as close as possible to where it's generated.

785 Just one (1) little parenthesis here; there was several discussion in the first session about

the difference in distance between Gatineau and Lachute on the one hand, and Gatineau and Danford Lake on the other, the argument being made that as Danford Lake was closer, there would be less pollution. I don't think this argument really stands up.

790 Talking to a trucker the other day, he said that because the 105 is so windy and hilly, the truck always has to gear down, gear up, gear down, gear up. And the effect on petrol consumption is so bad that he guessed a truck going to Danford Lake would use the same amount of petrol, same amount of gas, as it would going to Lachute.

795 Moreover, the comparison is not all that relevant anyway, because, number one, 148 will be replaced by a new and "vaster" highway shortly, next year or so, and within three (3) to five (5) years, hopefully there will be another solution that doesn't have the garbage travelling around the countryside.

800 Finally, I'd like to say a few words about litter. Any visits we have made, or pictures or videos we have seen of other dump sites or the highways surrounding dump sites, including the CARP site in Ottawa, show great amounts of litter, principally paper, along the highways, on people's front lawns, so forth. I am concerned, and my colleagues are concerned, that some of the trucks that would be going to this proposed landfill would be the open-top type, the seven-ton
805 trucks that my colleague, MR. Masotti, talked about a few days ago. These trucks only have a loose netting on the back to keep their contents inside, and that netting would not be able to keep loose papers and other garbage inside the truck. The clean-up of that would have to be done by the residents who live along the road.

810 In conclusion, the addition of hundreds of trucks every day to the current traffic on these highways will have a dramatic effect upon the quality of those who use the highways, and especially those who live on the highways. Urban waste should be disposed of in a location as close as possible to the source of the waste. If it must be transported, this should be done on safe, well-maintained highways, as far away as possible from urban dwellings. It certainly should not be
815 transported through a series of small villages, where the homes sit directly on the road. The route of 105/301 is therefore especially poorly suited for this type of transportation. I feel strongly that approval for this landfill should not be given. Thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

820 (Translation) Thank you, MR. Dingleline. I practised your name.

MR. PAUL DINGLELINE:

825 My first name is Paul, if that helps.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

830 (Translation) MR. Dingledine, I'm surprised to learn that trucks travel, circulate without nets to transport waste on an open truck. I don't know if somebody from the department could...

MR. PAUL DINGLEDINE:

835 I'm not sure I was understood there. What I... I was not suggesting that the trucks did not have nets, I was only saying that the net, a loose net, is not enough to keep the paper in.

THE COMMISSIONER:

840 (Translation) Concerning the noise levels that were measured, and the promoter said that it was done according to approved methods approved by the Department of the Environment, and I agree with you that it might not be representative of the level of nuisance that a citizen may experience... as you say, the truck produces... it produces a peak noise which can be bother... very bothersome, but the method allows the establishment of an average which is compared to a norm, and each truck that goes by becomes a source of nuisance, yes, I know that, I understand your
845 worry in this respect and why you don't want to see extra trucks going by, because each time they go by, there is an extra bother that is not taken into account in the measurement system. But that's how the measurement system is set up. But we will take into account your comments, sir.

850 But I have another question for you. If the project is presented as for the two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) tons of waste a year, which is what is being studied here, and which gives us a quantity of trucks that are going up 101 before getting to Kazabazua, maybe fifty (50) or sixty (60)... maybe I can revise the numbers after seeing a study, but, for example, if the authorization was given, and that's always in the conditional, if the authorization was given for fifty thousand (50,000) tons a year, let's just say, for a ballpark figure, so the number of trucks would be about sixty (60)
855 that would go on 105, it would be more, but if you divide that by five (5), you only have twelve (12) or fifteen (15) trucks a day that would be going on that road that you're worried about, which represents one and a half (1½) trucks per hour. So how do you view that as an important source of nuisance? Does it become more acceptable, in your viewpoint, when you put it like that, if it were in that hypothesis?

860

MR. PAUL DINGLEDINE:

865 Certainly it is... you know, sixty (60) trucks is better than a hundred and fifty (150) trucks. I think this sort of goes back to your previous comment. I'm not an engineer, you are right that the model is a standard model, it is one of several models, as I understand it, used to measure noise, and I'm not arguing that point. But on the first session of the hearings there was some discussion, if I recall correctly, that the Ministry of Transport was studying other models to see if

there were more better ways of doing this. I would hope that you would make a recommendation that they should, working with other jurisdictions perhaps, see if they could do it.

870

But coming back to your question on the number of trucks, I think your average citizen, if you say, well, you've got a hundred and twenty-two (122), or if you've got sixty (60) trucks...

THE COMMISSIONER:

875

(Translation) Excuse me, what I said in my calculation is I said if you calculate fifty thousand (50,000) instead of two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) tons a year, so the number of trucks would be one-fifth, so it would be one (1) or two (2) more trucks a year that would be travelling up the road, that is what I was asking about. So how would you see it if it was one (1) or two (2) trucks more an hour going up that road? How would you view that?

880

MR. PAUL DINGLEDINE:

I think one (1) or two (2) more trucks every hour is not going to be very significant, giving the current level of traffic, but as a general rule, I think your average citizen would consider, you know, fifty (50) trucks to be twice as bad as twenty-five (25) trucks, and a hundred (100) trucks to be twice as bad as fifty (50). It's not very scientific, but that's how they will react, I think, as individuals, if that answers your question.

885

So if you cut the number of trucks divided by five (5), there will be a noticeable improvement, obviously.

890

THE COMMISSIONER:

(Translation) I have no further questions, and I thank you very much, sir.

895

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you very much.

900

MR. PAUL DINGLEDINE:

I didn't even get kicked once.

905

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) There is now one (1)... another registration, it's two (2) persons who wish to present their opinion simultaneously. These are the Reverend John Buck and Madame Laurel Buck.

910

So while you are getting set up, I would like to tell people in the hall that if they wish to give their opinion, even if it's only one (1) sentence, please feel free to do so, because now is the time to do so. Don't forget, think about it. If you're a bit shy about doing it, it's better to do it than to regret not having done it later on and say "I should have done it, I should have given my opinion." So please feel perfectly free to give your opinion if you would like to.

915

So welcome, Reverend and Madame.

REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

920

I would have liked it to have been given it in French, because I do speak some French, but it's not adequate, because I've lived in Alberta now since nineteen sixty-five (1965) and I have been back here at my very simple cabin just off the 301 highway, half a kilometre, on a little lake called -- locally anyway -- Little Red Pine Lake, which is a spring-fed lake, and it's been designated by the Province of Quebec authorities -- I'm not sure which group -- as a gem of a lake, because you can still drink the water out of the lake. It's spring-fed and it comes... they tell me the water comes from O'Brien Mountain. And I hope for the rest of the years that I have of life I will be able to still, if I want to, drink the water out of the lake. And if it ever got to the point that I couldn't, I would be very, very sad, of course.

925

930

I built a little cabin on that lake beginning in nineteen fifty-five (1955), and by nineteen fifty-seven (1957) I was paying municipal taxes and education taxes, and it's because "je l'aime Québec", I do, I love Quebec, and I felt it was a privilege to contribute still, because I have come every year since nineteen fifty-seven (1957).

935

First I came from Montreal area, from Beauharnois, but when I moved to Calgary, Alberta in nineteen sixty-five (1965) for work, our whole family, myself, my dear wife Laurel and our four (4) sons, who took all their original education in the Province of Quebec...

940

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

So did we.

REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

945

And so did we. They, with us, travelled by car for year after year, four thousand (4,000) kilometres one way in order to be in this, God's country, Gatineau, which we dearly, dearly love. As you can see, we just got back on Tuesday and it was a long flight this time. We had to get up at three o'clock (3:00) in the morning in order to make the aircraft that we were assigned, and we didn't get here, local time, until six p.m. (6:00). And the next day I threw my body into the lake,

950

955 because it was warm, and I was glad to be able to have a lake that Quebec heritage has designated a gem lake to do so. And I will continue to do so, to come every year, for a part or most of the summer, because it's my second home. It is my home. I grew up in Montreal and I just... I just really like being here. And I hope nobody decides that they don't want me here by poisoning my water.

960 I don't know what the results are of the research, but if the... you see, we're on a vein of water that we pump, and someone has explained to me that that water comes from O'Brien Mountain.

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

965 Yes.

REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

970 And it goes down underneath and it's a spring. And a man by the name of Gadou came in and he brought his witch, and he witched, and he said, "M. Buck, l'eau c'est ici, c'est ici." He put the well down, he drove it, put a bucket on the end of the pump, he primed the pump and he pumped, and I've been pumping that water now for, well, ever since nineteen seventy (1970), I think, that well. I had another one before that for a different reason. And some people say, "Well, what do you mean you pump water like that?" Well, yes, I still pump water like that, but of course, I'm modern, and down underneath my cottage, I have a gould, G-O-U-L-D, pump, modern, but it's gentle and it pumps the water into a pressure tank and I've got pipes that go so that if we don't want to throw our bodies into the lake, we can throw them into the bathtub, because good old Hydro-Québec provides wonderful electricity from the Gatineau River so we can have hot water in the bathtub when we're here in the fall.

980 So, you see what our interest is. We think this is one of the most beautiful tourist areas in the whole of Quebec, and we prove it by our commitment coming every year, year after year after year. And our four (4) sons have made... they're all in Calgary now, but they love coming to Quebec and their children are in French immersion. Why not? And they come to visit when they want to have a real holiday. I mean, you can go to Banff, you know, but it's too many... oh, I'm sorry, I was going to say too many Americans, I better not say that. Better not say that.

985 That's really it, what you see, it's my emotions showing, and I would... I'm an engineer and I know some of these things you're talking about. And I know that Calgary is very careful where it puts its garbage, very careful. But then there's a lot more acreage in a way that's handy for them to do it. And garbage is a modern problem, we make lots of it, I'm aware of that.

990 I think I've said enough.

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

995 I just want to... am I too close? I just want to give you a little idea of how it was that we
 came to the Gatineau. My husband worked as an engineer for a number of years for Shawinigan
 Engineering in Montreal. In nineteen fifty (1950) he went back to McGill and trained in theology
 and was ordained a minister in the Anglican Church of Canada. And because we were young,
 twenty-seven (27), twenty-eight (28), we had one (1) little boy, who's now fifty-four (54), we came...
 1000 the bishop sent us to Kazabazua, to the Parish of Alwyn River des Air.

Now, my ancestry is Irish, my forbearers came from Ireland to Quebec in the early
 eighteen twenties (1820s), twenty-five (25) years before the potato famine, which was in the
 eighteen forties (1840s), they came for land. And when we moved here to the Gatineau, it was like
 1005 home because there is a lot of Irish ancestry here among these people. And the people that greet
 us when we come back will say, "How long are you home for?" And they mean here, "How long
 are you home for?" And that's a very precious thing.

You heard from Roy Peck; Roy was a teenager when he became the warden. One of the
 1010 assignments of a member of the parish is that he undertakes to act as warden. He was a teenager
 when he did that for John and for the parish. There are at least two (2) people here who go back to
 work that I did among the girls, and Alexa, whom you heard from, very articulate, she was a little
 girl in a group that I led, and so was Darlene, who's sitting back there beside her mother Emily.

So Henry Heeny is the man from whom we bought the lot. And we didn't have much
 1015 money, it was ten dollars (\$10.00) down and ten dollars (\$10.00) a month, until finally the lot
 belonged to us. And Henry was known even back then as an environmentalist. He said about the
 little lake, the spring-fed lake, that he had a vision that it would be a place where children would
 come to swim, that there could be some cottages, and that has happened, of course. But also, he
 1020 was a woodsman and he refused to cut down trees heedlessly, and he told us when we first
 bought, put our down payment, yhat the large trees about a hundred (100) to a hundred and fifty
 feet (150 ft) away from the shore would still stand, and they still stand. And if you're standing in
 front of one of those huge white pines, you cannot put your arms around it. It's huge.

So I salute the memory of Henry Heeny, who died a few years ago, who had this vision
 1025 about a young family who might come and build a cottage bit by bit, which was ourselves. So I
 speak to you on behalf of someone who loves this place and who loved the people here.

And I thank you very much, Claudette Journault and Donald Labrie, I thank you for
 1030 listening. Thank you much.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1035 (Translation) Thank you very much for your testimony, madame. Thank you, sir. Just out of curiosity, are your children... are they going to come this summer? Are your grandchildren coming to your cottage this summer?

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

1040 Yes, yes.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1045 (Translation) They find it important to come and spend some time in this beautiful nature?

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

1050 Two (2) of them were born... two (2) of them were born... two (2) of our sons, Jack and then Steven, eighteen (18) months apart, were born in the Gatineau Memorial Hospital in Wakefield. And so they are Gatineau children. The other two (2) were born in Calgary. No, Montreal. We moved around a lot when we were young. Yes, they do come. And when they come, they go into the water and they say "Yes!" Comme ça.

1055 Now, we don't always know who's coming, or when, but they know that their parents are here for a month, and it's very likely some of them will show up.

REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

1060 And we have one who refuses aircraft, and he drives here.

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

Yes.

1065 REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

1070 That's just the way he is. He's the one without children. And he gets in and "il parle le français assez bien", and he just gets in there and he just is heading for Quebec. And that's all part of Canada and it's just wonderful. He's coming this summer, he might drive this summer, because he has a wedding to go to.

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

1075 Last summer he and his wife laid down a pine floor. The summer before that, he put one
down and then he put a second one down. The two (2) of them worked away getting it down. So
that's it.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1080 (Translation) It makes me think of the film "On a Pond", I think.

REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

1085 "On Golden Pond".

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

"On Golden Pond".

1090 REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

But it's not golden, it's silver.

MRS. LAUREL BUCK:

1095 Silver, like that.

REVEREND JOHN BUCK:

1100 When you get up in the morning, at four thirty (04:30) like today... you can today, you see,
because there's light, it glistens and what you see as the first light hits the lake is you see it's silver.
And we have a resident... what is that... the loon that's on your one dollar (\$1.00). The one that's
on that dollar, he lives on our lake. And he puts his kids on his back and swims around with them.

1105 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Thank you for your testimony.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1110 (Translation) Mrs. Pritchard, the one who presented a video before, could we ask you to
come back? The beauty of the scenery left us speechless, so we forgot to ask you questions.

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

1115

Okay. That was what I wanted.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1120

(Translation) The cottages that we saw in your presentation during the River Picanoc, we seemed to recognize the cottage of MR. Pelletier that he made a presentation yesterday. Is that the case? Okay. And we see other ones as well. Is there one of them that is on a map that is along the river before Mr. Pelletier's cottage?

1125

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

1130

Now, let me think. We're going down... I was more concerned about staying in the canoe rather than where the cottages were, but it is Mr. Pelletier's cottage, and then we passed some antique farms with children out playing and... I think it was a log building, obviously an old settlement. And then the third place that I remember seeing was Bob Wilson's chalet that we stopped at and took photographs.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1135

(Translation) What distance is it from Mr. Pelletier?

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

1140

I'm sorry?

THE COMMISSIONER:

1145

(Translation) The one you just mentioned, at what distance is it from Mr. Pelletier's cottage, towards Gatineau River? Approximately.

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

1150

Oh, I couldn't give you the distance. I could tell you how far it was close to the river, but how far it was by dipping the paddle in the... I don't know. I believe they're both on the Five Mile River, but I couldn't give you the distance accurately. We also passed the spot where my grandfather's mill was, and it is now called the Five Mile Club. My staff has given me eight (8) kilometres.

THE COMMISSIONER:

1155

Eight (8) kilometres. (Translation) And the rapids that we see also, are they a long way

before the site is going to be, just approximately?

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

1160

I'm losing it in the translation somewhat. I'm better, I think, maybe listening to you in French. We went down a very tranquil section, where the paddling was difficult, we passed the cottages, the water is very slow moving. And then we approached the Grove Creek, where the leachate will come out. The water is... it's almost like a lake there, it's hard to imagine it's the river.

1165

And then as you saw in the film, we passed the cottages, and the water then becomes very rough, very exciting and a lot of fun. Does that answer your question? Sorry.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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(Translation) The question was the distance from the rapids, the distance from the rapids to where the dump site is going to be. Approximately, what's the distance going to be? You have no idea?

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

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I don't know. Hang on a sec. There's my answer; three (3) kilometres.

THE COMMISSIONER:

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Three (3) kilometres.

MS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

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Bob Wilson has his place on... it was his chalet.

THE COMMISSIONER:

Okay. Thank you very much. No other questions. Thank you.

1190

MRS. ALEXA PRITCHARD:

Thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Mrs. Suzanne Beaudoin-Milford.

MS. SUZANNE BEAUDOIN-MILFORD:

1200 (Translation) Good afternoon, Mrs. Journault and Mr. Labrie. My name is Suzanne
Beaudoin. I live two point three (2.3) kilometres... (End of translation) Can I speak in English? I
feel more comfortable. I live about two point three (2.3) kilometres from the proposed landfill site,
and it really scares me because I'm so close. There are other residents that are closer to me,
1205 closer to the landfill site, but I have not seen them here, and I wonder why. I don't know why our
council has even considered putting a mega dump in Danford Lake, because it's such a beautiful
country.

As the BAPE hearings started, I have helped with the coalition, trying to find ways to stop
this. We don't want it. I guess you all know that. I've already started to have high blood pressure,
1210 it's very high by times. I just worry about what it's going to have because I am so close to it.

And our councillors that are in favour of this mega dump, can they ever be asked to be
present and explain us face-to-face why they want this? Can they come tonight? Because if we
see them on the road, we can't ask no questions at their home, they will not answer. I think on
1215 behalf of everyone here, I think we deserve at least that much from our council. Can you do that?

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) It is their choice, they can if they want to or not, but the elected members
1220 have an answer to give at one given point to their electors, and this is in that sense that the
democracy takes place. I would like to get the map and a photo, aerial view, to get it on the screen
so you could show where you live. While we're preparing the map to show us where you live, in
the first part, we can ask... in the first phase we were able to ask certain testimonies from the
municipalities. We couldn't ask one (1) person specifically, and we asked the municipality to
1225 delegate some representatives to answer the questions. We did a special request to ask the
mayor to answer over the phone, but we can't ask in a particular way to ask for the councillors to
come. Things will have to follow their course.

MS. SUZANNE BEAUDOIN-MILFORD:

1230 (Translation) I will ask my son here to point it out to you. The names of the streets, are
they indicated? Are the names of the streets indicated on the street? (End of translation) Could
you show us where Copeland Avenue is on... Well, right where the sign "301" is...

1235 MR. MILFORD:

Approximately right there.

MS. SUZANNE BEAUDOIN-MILFORD:

1240

No, higher.

MR. MILFORD:

1245

That's the highway. That is the property.

MS. SUZANNE BEAUDOIN-MILFORD:

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An when my son... as a child, he had asthma, he outgrew it and I fear that with all this bad air, it may reoccur. And he doesn't need that, and nobody needs it. Thank you.

THE CHAIRWOMAN:

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(Translation) Thank you for your testimony. The Mount O'Brien Association.

MS. PAM MILES:

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(Translation) I have a Power Point presentation. (End of translation) Hello. Are we ready? My name is Pam Miles, I am a member of the Mount O'Brien Association. I was a director for four (4) years, president for one (1). And beside me is Roy Peck, a founding member and board member, and there are several members of Mount O'Brien Association in the room.

1265

Paula Armstrong, a board member and our scientific advisor, unfortunately could not make it from Montreal today, so I'm speaking on her behalf. We put together a Power Point and want to explain what Mount O'Brien is and our opinion about the proposed engineered landfill just down the road.

1270

First, briefly, what is the Mount O'Brien Association? We were founded in two thousand (2000), after a municipality-organized brainstorming session of what we wanted for the future of the municipality. One concept that came out of it was to preserve twenty-five (25) square kilometres of beautiful wilderness just down the road from the town. It is all Crown land and had been land logged by private ownership for fifteen (15), twenty (20), twenty-five (25) years. It's in the backyard of the municipality and known for its great hunting, fishing, trails and now great for ATViing and hiking because of the Association.

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We have up to a hundred and seventy-five (175) family memberships, about five hundred (500) people, with many more that have access to this land because of the association. So we are seven (7) years old already and we have done hundreds and hundreds of hours on trails, roads, extensive work using GPS, which has also benefitted the municipality. We've been

1280 working with all levels of government; municipal, provincial and the MRC level, and as well, through the consultation process, with the logging companies.

1285 Unfortunately, when we were founded in two thousand (2000), we found out that the logging companies had a right to cut, which is understandable, this is grave logging country, but fortunately we had a say on their cutting. Instead of just clear cutting everything, they had to follow the letter of the law most of the time.

1290 Our goal for the long term is to have protected status in some form, whether recognized by the MRC, the province, municipality in some way. The logging, as we can figure it out, and this is where Paula could answer the more technical questions, is almost complete. A lot of the logs, primarily poplar logs, have been cleared right out. Unfortunately, some of the beautiful majestic white pines they cut with it. My dad and I took the time to put signs on some of the most massive pines, but they unfortunately cut them anyways, even though they weren't supposed to.

1295 Our mandate is to maintain the wilderness environment of the Mount O'Brien area, protecting the numbers and variety of flora and fauna, while providing educational opportunities and recreational access to forests, lakes, rivers and mountains.

1300 Here is a map of the area, which you've probably seen many times, where the yellow indicates the Crown land. You can see Highway 301, and in black where the proposed landfill is being proposed. It is very, very close.

1305 This is just some of the newspaper articles just showing our efforts to become protected status. As part of the Quebec Government, the Ministry of Natural... or the Environment, sorry, we submitted, as did several groups in the Outaouais, to receive protected status, unfortunately we found out last year that we were not accepted. Other areas were. But the good news was Flora Quebec, the executives from their board did a site visit last summer and found few rare plants, including the squawroot, which we are now working towards at least getting protected status for the mountain, which is quite a beautiful mountain full of oaks, and now discovered the squawroot, about fifty (50) colonies.

1315 Membership is quite active, we have several annual hikes, and this is just a photo from a couple years ago of the fall hike. Forêt-la-Blanche nearby, near Mayo, Quebec, has been given protective status, took many, many years. That's the model we are working towards, where they have the extreme bio-diversity status, we don't want one so extreme because our local population, the cottagers, what we're hoping for to be a great tourist attraction, will be an attraction for many people.

1320 Why is the Association opposed to the Danford landfill? We are sitting here today because at our AGM, pressured from the membership, we had a vote. We were to that day maintaining neutral status because Mount O'Brien Association is here for the long haul. No

1325 matter what happens, Mount O'Brien wants to continue and be a great oasis for this region. We were pressured to have a vote, so we did, and the votes were tallied. And not surprising, of the hundred and six (106) people that voted, a hundred and two (102) were opposed to the proposed landfill, four (4) wanted to maintain a neutral status of the board, and zero (0) members were for the project. Not surprising, with our mandate.

1330 These are the basic reasons why. The landfill pile will be visible from Mount O'Brien. I believe that was in the LDC's report, I think there was some calculation of distance and site. From our calculations, you're going to be able to see the massive mound of garbage, which will be almost the size of Mount O'Brien, one of the highest peaks in the area of Alleyn-and-Cawood. It's pretty obvious that we wouldn't want a massive landfill when we have a beautiful rock mountain nearby.

1335 Significant increase in truck traffic on Highway 301 is a major safety concern. We are hoping that Mount O'Brien will be a great attraction for many people. Won't be very safe when there are trucks every, what, five (5), ten (10), even fifteen (15) minutes going by that entrance. It's a windy highway and it would be quite horrific to have an accident for the hopefully many tourists that will be attracted.

1340 There's a photo that Paula provided, it isn't of the Wakefield, but just shows how narrow this highway is, Highway 105, to get to the Mount O'Brien area. We've all driven it. And this is summer, it's quite scary. I actually have not gone to some Mount O'Brien board meetings on a Sunday because of bad winter weather, because it's a scary highway.

1345 The environmental risks to the wide variety of flora and fauna are too high. Paula is an expert on this, if you have specific questions on that we can refer to her, and some of it is in the briefing. This is pretty obvious, and I think we've heard from many other people on this topic.

1350 Overall, having a massive landfill located adjacent to a proposed protected wilderness area is completely incompatible with the Association's mandate. It is counter to the incredible potential for recreational eco-tourism in the region. I wasn't present, but I hear the mayor of Low, Mr. Francis, went on about that. This region is historically logging and farming and now is the time to embrace recreational eco-tourism.

1355 Alleyn-and-Cawood is one of the last municipalities to be developed for cottages and other type of recreational activity. Sorry. It's really difficult to speak slow when I'm so excited. I think my parents are probably very happy right now.

1360 MR. ROY PECK:

She's speaking for me because she knows I cannot hear very well.

MS. PAM MILES:

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The Picanoc River, my father and I canoe it every spring. It almost makes me cry that this would be on this river. It's shallow in the summer, you can only white water canoe it in the spring, and there's kilometres and kilometres of Crown land on one side, the other side is owned by private people. They own swaths of hundreds of acres. If Europeans got wind of that, it's just incredible what can be done in this region instead of having a massive landfill.

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Mount O'Brien is just one (1) little organization, so grassroots, and I know Pierre Duchesne is here from the MRC Pontiac, and he had a comment during the question period and he was sort of challenging the Mount O'Brien Association on where we are at in developing our plans. We are so grassroots that we want to work in conjunction with the MRC Pontiac, Municipality of Allevyn-and-Cawood so the Mount O'Brien Association could be at its full potential. It almost makes me well up to think about this great opportunity that is being missed out.

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Another key point is that the Mount O'Brien Association were not consulted, we were never invited to any meetings, any public meetings, private meetings. And we held back on making an opinion in good faith, but we could not hold back anymore, which is why we are here today.

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Waste should be handled closer to the source. It's so obvious and it's being said over and over again this week. Waste should be considered a renewable resource, we should catch up to so many other countries that are embracing waste energy technology. It's so obvious, it's being said over and over again.

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Now I have some photos, more about Mount O'Brien. If you can just take a look at the screen, I just want to visually show you how active Mount O'Brien has been. Every year we have a Thanksgiving hike, we have from twenty-five (25) to sixty (60) people come out. Opening of our Mary Haydon Trail. Sadly, a key member passed away, we worked very hard to put a trail up over the maintain and had it named in her honour. On the left there, so you can see what it looks like, is Mayor Joe Squitti, who is there to be part of that ceremony. Just a handful of our volunteers. We had some of the local guys with the heavy equipment put hundreds of their time and equipment into making the roads and trails. Heart and soul has been put into Mount O'Brien, it would be very sad to have it destroyed. Surprise, surprise, Michele Borchers is a founding member.

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That's the view from the mountain, looking south. Paula Armstrong, our scientific advisor. Wide variety of flora and fauna we're trying to protect. If Paula was sitting here, she would tell you the Latin name and the English name. Some massive trees in there. This is logging country, we accept that, but it would be nice to have a few of the old grove sections that have not been cut be preserved. You've got everything in there. Supposedly there's word there's cougars in there now. Another view of Mud Lake. Like, we're not talking the Rockies or the Adirondacks, but this

1400

1405 is our mountain that we love. This is some of the photos from the active membership organized hikes, some of the scenery. My sister from Vancouver came all the way for the hike. Some beautiful places in there. A few Canadian celebrities; Dr. Steve MacLean, one of Canada's astronauts, summited Mount O'Brien. Chief Justice of Canada.

1410 As I mentioned, the Picanoc River isn't officially in the area we call Mount O'Brien. We did submit it as part of our application to receive protected status. That's a long-term vision to at least have the Crown land adjacent to the river be protected and have the private land be developed well by thoughtful developers.

1415 Here are some photos of the Picanoc River, which I know you've seen many times now. Paula had spoken previously, or has mentioned about these trails being developed. We are going to the municipality, who passed a resolution. Now I guess through the MRC we can ask Pierre where that is at, and then have them officially registered by the ministry, with the idea that they cannot log within thirty (30) meters. That's all we ask, it's not a lot. We'd love to develop the trails more thoroughly, some are too rugged, like to do this to them.

1420 I'm concluding now. With proper vision and leadership in this region, the Mount O'Brien region could be a key element in the economic and social development. Let's work together to make this happen. Roy, would you like to say anything as we conclude?

1425 MR. ROY PECK:

1430 Well, I would just like to say we have spent many hundreds of hours making trails, cutting out old existing roads, all the old existing roads that were put in fifty-five (55), sixty (60) years ago by a jobber, they've all been cleared, all the brush cut out. There was multiple hours by people who went in and did all this work. So we have a beautiful spot and we hope to keep it that way and make it so the public can go in and use it. For twenty-five (25) years nobody could use it because the property was encased by private property.

1435 That's the gist of the whole thing, is I want, and we want, Mount O'Brien wants everybody to be able to use this park, or whatever it is they give us... give it to us. Like, for twenty-five (25) years it was not accessible to anybody except a few people who had access through private property. But now it is available to everybody who wants to go to Mount O'Brien. Thank you.

1440 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

1445 (Translation) Thank you for your testimony. Do you have the impression that the... are supported by the... that you are supported in your efforts to obtain a protected status for Mount O'Brien, both by the MRC and/or by the Government of Quebec? Do you have the impression that they support you?

MS. PAM MILES:

1450 I think generally... I think generally we submitted... I think it's a small area, therefore in the first round we were not given protected status. We are so close to the Gatineau Park that the idea is it can be part of that belt of protected area. The MRC Pontiac, I think we've been given thoughtful consideration.

1455 We submitted a grant, request for a grant, to have a business plan, development plan, done up. What we did receive is a grant to see if it was feasible to have an astronomical observatory on the top of the mountain. It came back not with a final conclusion, but not a green light to pursue that. Even if we did, we would need the help of MRC Pontiac and the municipality, we could not do it alone.

1460 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) Well, thank you for having brought us to discover this beautiful part of the country, and I hope that people will cooperate with you in your efforts for long-term protection of this site.

1465 MS. PAM MILES:

We hope so, too.

1470 THE CHAIRWOMAN:

(Translation) I think that this afternoon there are no other registrations and there are no other description... there's no other requirements for corrections, so you have earned yourself a lovely break right up until seven o'clock (7:00). So we'll see you at seven o'clock (7:00).

1475 ADJOURNED

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 above-named speakers at the public hearings conducted by the BAPE.

1480 AND I HAVE SIGNED:

1485 _____
ANNAGRET RINALDI,
Official Court Reporter.