Dear Congressman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter of January 15, 2008, written on behalf of your constituents in DeWitt County who are concerned about plans by the Coulter Company and Area Disposal Service, Inc. to obtain a Chemical Waste Landfill designation for the Clinton Landfill. They specifically expressed concern about leachate from polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) seeping into the Mahomet Aquifer. You asked that we give their concerns the merit they deserve and that we provide you with a copy of the draft proposed permit when it is complete.

Clinton Landfill Inc., an associate of Peoria Disposal Company and Area Disposal, filed an application on October 19, 2007, for approval to dispose PCB waste in a specially constructed subcell of a larger cell already permitted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to take municipal waste. The application was submitted in accordance with the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

I assure you we are conducting a thorough review of the application, specifically evaluating any potential threat to the Mahomet Aquifer from the potential use of the landfill to dispose of PCBs. If we ultimately determine that the chemical waste landfill cell meets the TSCA requirements, we will provide an opportunity for public review and comment on our determination and draft proposed permit. In addition to providing you a copy of the draft proposed permit, we will make copies of the application available for public review in a local library.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mary Canavan or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at 312-886-3000.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator
bcc:  Toxic Section
     T. Martig, TS
     RA Read File

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