



Michigan Senate

Michael D. Bishop

State Senator

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Mr. Steven E. Chester  
 Director, Department of Environmental Quality  
 Constitution Hall  
 525 West Allegan  
 Administrative Offices  
 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Tower  
 Lansing, MI 48913

Re: Proposed Project for the Cardinal Veterans Landfill in Rochester Hills

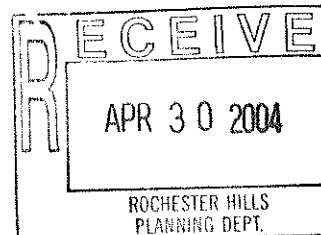
April 21, 2004

Dear Director Chester:

Thank you for the time and work that you and your staff are dedicating to the proposed project regarding the Cardinal Veterans Landfill, on Hamlin Road in Rochester Hills. Although communication between our offices has been on-going at the staff level, I wanted to personally convey my comments and concerns about the current environmental condition of the landfill property and surrounding area.

By all indications, the Cardinal Veterans Landfill is an ever growing environmental disaster threatening the health, safety and welfare not only of residents of Rochester Hills, but of those serviced by the Clinton River. An April 1 survey conducted by your own department highlighted the fact that a monitoring well closest to an adjacent apartment complex found methane concentrations nearing 15%. Furthermore, it has come to light that garbage in the eastern portion of the land fill is at groundwater level with no liner underneath the landfill and that there is contamination migrating from the northeast corner of the site toward the Clinton River.

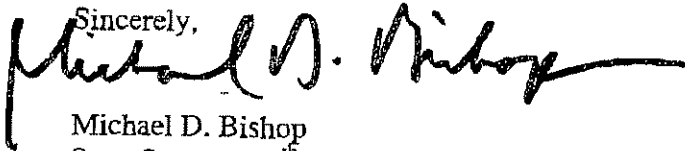
My heightened level of concern comes from the fact that Rochester Hills has previously been down a similar path. Last time we were fortunate enough to avoid a disaster, but we cannot afford to run the risk again. Therefore, any delay in executing a remedy to this problem comes at a heightened cost.



I am confident that the removal of the garbage from the site, the installation of remedial measures and an effective cap will have a dramatic and positive impact on the environmental value and safety of our community. To that end, it is my understanding that a proposed project on that site will address our immediate concerns and is our best solution to protect against the threat of an imminent environmental disaster. Accordingly, time is of the essence and I would personally request that everything be done to ensure that we work with the City and those involved in the proposed remediation project to bring this matter to a swift and successful outcome.

On behalf of the citizens of my district and all of us who put high value on the quality of life in our communities, I thank you for your continued work and attention to this project. My compliments go out to you and your staff members for the thoroughness and professionalism with which you have conducted yourselves. Please do not hesitate to contact me and/or my office if we can be of service on this matter. In the meantime, my continuing best regards.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Bishop  
State Senator, 12<sup>th</sup> District