

November 4, 2024.

TO: NS Dept of Environment and Climate Change, 136 Exhibition St, Kentville, NS. B4N 4E5.
Dillon Consulting, 137 Chain Lake Drive, Suite 100, Halifax, NS B3S 1B3.
→ Municipality of West Hants, 76 Morison Drive, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
GFL West Hants, 1569 Walton Woods Road, Centre Burlington, NS, B0N 1E0

RE: Consultative Process for Approval under Environmental Act: Expansion West Hants Landfill.

Dear *Mayer and Councilors,*
~~Addressee~~ and Whom it may Concern:

I am a resident of West Hants for 40+ years and though I do not live in the area near the landfill on Cogmagun Road, its existence and operation are obviously of concern to the whole of our municipality. Although I do not have a technical background, I have great concern about the environmental and economic changes this expansion may create. (I was in fact Waste Reduction Coordinator for West Hants for a period in the mid-90's so have a sense of what was there, and is from recent uses of the current operation).

1) Heavy truck traffic on provincial roads to and from Highway 101.

This landfill is 20 to 25 kilometres from the nearest exit (4) to Highway 101, essentially all on minor roads, past homes and farms. These roads were not built to take that traffic. What additional highway reconstruction and maintenance will be undertaken to accommodate the traffic and when?

2) Medical and other dangerous waste;

The existing landfill has a Household and Hazardous Waste deport. Will the expanded one be equipped to deal with medical waste, including sharps and infectious materials, on-site or will it be re-shipped elsewhere?

3) Loss/benefit to West Hants residents

The existing landfill has already suffered a fire and smoke effect in recent weeks, and the existing cells can already be seen rising above trees from several vantage points. Nobody wants this in their backyard. Leaving aside the health dangers to residents, being asked by others, there seems no doubt that property values in Districts 1 and 2 and part of 3, anywhere within the range of the landfill, will be negatively affected. How much is the Municipality of West Hants being paid to host this provincial project within its boundaries? How will this payment be passed on to affected property owners and taxpayers?

4) Indemnification for costs to West Hants during operation and eventual decommissioning.

Health and economic risks for residents of West Hants in the region of the project abound! One of those trucks carrying materials is going to slip off the highway, overturn and spill; in the climate crisis era of heavy rains, there will be cloudbursts causing overflows. Etcetera. How much insurance indemnifies the landfill operator against claims?

The site will need to be closed and have long-term monitoring at the end of its proposed life-span. What bonds have the operators deposited with the province to cover those costs? Will the province guarantee that proper closure and long-term cleanup and monitoring is done? Is the provincial Department of Environment and Climate Change aware that GFL's Environmental services division is in the process of changing ownership? What difference could that make to agreements?

This proposed landfill expansion appears to be the only expansion proposed in a residential/agricultural area, and with traffic passing through residential/agricultural areas. I join the other folks in West Hants who believe that these special circumstances warrant a very detailed assessment with satisfactory answers.

Yours truly,



Carol Bradley