

...happening. members like Ed Lilly,

Raises issue on CWM's lack of veracity

Once again, Chemical Waste Management is back in the spotlight on mishandling PCBs. The fact that, over three years, they have been in violation with PCBs going into the local streams dismays me.

As a Town of Porter representative on the Community Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly with CWM to discuss public concerns, this topic was never mentioned by CWM. The falsifying of records and intentional, illegal burying of large PCB products, which cost CWM \$178,000 in penalties, did get discussed.

It seems like we have a constant problem in getting CWM to be forthright with the citizens of the area. For two years, I asked about radioactive materials at CWM before they admitted it. Now, the US Army Corps of Engineers have discovered plutonium and several other radioactive materials at CWM.

Simultaneous with that

revelation, CWM was bold enough to ask the Town of Porter for an excavation permit so they could dig in and near these questionable areas -- areas where the New York State Department of Health specifically prohibited any soil disturbance. As recently as at this March 9 CAC meeting, yet another new radioactive spot emerged after much questioning.

It seems like the public regularly gets surprises from the CWM site. There is a public briefing session at the Lew-Port High School at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 14. It will discuss the radiological and chemical discoveries at CWM and consider some of the health and safety risks. Knowledgeable people are coming from across the country, as well as having a panel of regional experts on health and nuclear worker exposure.

The whole community should be there to better understand the situation.

Bill Rolland

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