

## RRG applauds Pataki on Siting Plan legislation

Dear Gov. Pataki:

On behalf of all of the members of Residents for Responsible Government Inc. and all of the residents of this community we wish to publicly thank you for signing the legislation, and Sen. George Maziarz, and Assemblywoman Francine DelMonte for pushing the legislation through both houses for passage. It is unfortunate that the State needed to pass a law basically ordering the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to do what was required of them in the 1987 statewide Siting law, and what was required of them by Order of New York State Supreme Court Judge, Joseph D. Mintz, back in 1994 - to develop a comprehensive hazardous waste plan that is environmentally just. This new legislation requires the DEC to complete the Siting Plan before issuing any new or

renewing any hazardous waste permits.

RRG also thanks you for arranging to have us to meet with your staff, once in April and once in June 2005. The second included top level officials from the New York State Department of Health and from the Department of Environmental Conservation. It gave us the opportunity to provide your office with our concerns regarding the LOOW Site.

At those meetings were able to update your office and the agencies on issues regarding homeland security, school safety, and the safety of our community and Lake Ontario. Specifically we discussed the need to secure the NFSS Site and CWM from public access by terrorists, both domestic and foreign. We agree that saving the air base and the issue of local homeland security are interrelated. The NFSS site

needs more than a chain link fence. Time is of the essence and we implore you to use your powers to take immediate action.

Unfortunately our school system is only one mile from the only hazardous waste landfill in the entire northeastern United States. It is also only one mile from the radiological wastes stored at the NFSS. This community is not willing to sacrifice the future of our children so that the government or private companies can save or make money. Our community, our children, our air, our water, and soil must be immediately protected from chemical and radiological contamination.

Permanent real time testing is needed to protect our school campus from radiological and chemical contamination. This combined with an alarm system and a fully developed evacuation plan must be put in

place immediately.

Hazardous waste truck traffic past our schools is not acceptable to this community and must be addressed. Recently, a truck overturned spilling hazardous waste only 3/10ths of a mile from our schools. We expect 100 percent safety for our children, teachers, and staff at the Lewiston-Porter school campus. Anything less is unacceptable. Three years ago, the DEC reduced the number of on-site DEC monitors at CWM. The monitors are essential to the safety of the community. They should not only be restored, but should be on site 24/7.

The LOOW site is complex in that it was chemically and radiologically contaminated back in the 1940s and 1950s. Recently the Army Corp. of Engineers discovered some Plutonium and Strontium on CWM property less than

one foot below grade level. They have yet to locate the burial of thousands of plutonium laced animal carcasses from the University of Rochester known to have been buried on the site.

PCBs continue to be leaked into our creeks by CWM. The DEC has yet to comply with the 1987 siting law, nor with its own permit procedural rules. As the chief executive officer of this state we implore you to appoint an ombudsman, a citizen's advocate, to initiate community/agency interaction, an ombudsman with the power to coordinate and move these issues to a proper resolution.

Thank you for your care and concern for our community and look forward as you lead us into a new era for this community.

Vincent Agnello  
resident  
Residents for  
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# Sentinel

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