

**From:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Town of Tonawanda Landfill  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2010 8:48:55 AM

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Dear Mayor [REDACTED]

Thank you for forwarding [REDACTED] concerns to us.

As you know, the Corps is currently performing additional sampling in the Tonawanda Landfill to better define the extent and concentration of Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) related material in the Landfill Area.

Regarding [REDACTED] concerns about his vegetable garden, we have no evidence that the small areas of low-level radioactivity that have been previously identified in specific parts of the landfill go beyond the boundaries of the landfill. In order for garden plants to accumulate radioactivity, they have to be grown directly in radioactively contaminated soil, or their roots must extend down into contaminated groundwater. As there is no evidence that the backyards have any radioactivity in them, there should be no negative impacts to plants grown in these yards from radioactive material associated with FUSRAP related materials. We are currently expanding our soil and groundwater sampling along the fence line to further ensure that the radioactivity previously found in the landfill has not migrated toward the neighboring residences.

As you are aware, in 2007, the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) performed a survey of the properties on Hackett Dr. that bordered the landfill. NYSDEC's survey consisted of a gamma walk-over survey and a sampling of sump water from these homes. According to NYSDEC's report, no evidence of elevated radioactivity was found in the surface soil or sump water of the tested residences.

We have checked the work logs for April 1 and 2, 2010 and Mr. Miller's observation of the number of people that were working is correct; there were four people watching two drillers install temporary well points. This installation process requires that several different disciplines ensure that we achieve the best results possible. A typical crew during this sampling consists of two drillers to operate the drilling equipment; two health physicists to scan core samples and monitor the sampling area for radioactivity; and one geologist to determine the type of soil in the core sample and to ensure that the well is placed at the appropriate depth. Additionally, the Tyvek suits that the individuals were wearing are required by our contractor's health and safety plan to ensure that their workforce is not exposed to any chemically or radiologically contaminated, buried landfill material.

I have copied [REDACTED] on this response. If [REDACTED] has additional comments or concerns, he can reach us directly via email at [fusrap@usace.army.mil](mailto:fusrap@usace.army.mil) or by telephone at 800-833-6390 (Option 4). Thank you again for bringing his concerns to our attention.

[REDACTED]  
Tonawanda Landfill Project Manager

-----Original Message-----

From: Ronald J. Pilozzi [<mailto:mayor@ci.tonawanda.ny.us>]

[REDACTED]  
Subject: Town of Tonawanda Landfill

[REDACTED] As the spokesman for the Army Corps of Engineers and technical expert, please read the attached. Then advise what answers you have to the questions at your earliest convenience.

Thanks, [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, April 02, 2010 9:33 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor, My name is [REDACTED]

I happen to have off work this Thursday and Friday.

I have a concern, actually two. First, about 50 foot from where I grow a vegetable garden, there have been 6 men in tyvac suits drilling the last two days in the same spot. I would like to know just what they are doing and why. I was under the impression there was nothing to worry about? Should I be concerned that for the last several years since I have been here I have been growing and eating vegetables from this ground?

Second, I work hard for a living. I see two men "working", and the other 4 sitting for hours doing nothing but watching. I have pictures of these men hard at "work". To be honest I do not appreciate my taxes going for 6 men to do a job that is being done by 2.

I have never made a complaint like this in my life, have not gotten all involved in all the legal issues with this landfill and just thought I would mind my own business. But seeing this waste, and not being sure why someone is drilling so close to my back yard has prompted me to ask why.

I look forward to your response.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

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