



Chester Environmental Partnership

April 16, 2021

Delaware County Solid Waste Authority
Rose Tree Park – Hunt Club
1521 North Providence Road
Media, PA 19063

To Whom It May Concern,

I am the Chairman of the Chester Environmental Partnership (CEP). Our organization is a non-profit local environmental organization that monitors all industries along the Delaware River within the 159th Legislative District. We consist of Chester residents, industries such as Delcora, Chester Water Authority (CWA), Covanta, Monroe Industry, Kimberly Clark, J & K Trash Removal, and members of academia such as Widener University, University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, Drexel University, and regulatory agencies such as PA DEP, and EPA Region III. We also have members of the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester (SAC), in which I am the Executive Director, Chester City Council, and the Chester Health Department. We meet bi-monthly to address any-and-all issues related to the environment.

Over the past ten years, we have been awarded an EPA Care Grant, Level 1, and ran an Asthma Abatement Program with Crozer Keystone. This program was funded by the PA DEP and the Federal EPA. We partnered with Covanta to receive trash that was collected by J & K Trash Removal, which placed dumpsters around the community free of charge to support the Asthma Abatement Program.

Currently, we work with the City Health Department and the University of Pennsylvania to reduce amputations of body parts in Chester due to poor medical attention, and lack of education concerning the effects of diabetes. We also, through a community benefit agreement with Covanta, provide college scholarships to eight Chester High seniors each year. These are 4-year scholarships which provide \$2,500 per year for four years. Covanta also supports the PA ELCT Scholarship Program providing tuition assistance to parents to place their children in the school of their choice. Covanta supports minor league baseball and provide funds for educational field trips to Washington each year.

Our organization monitors riverfront industries by air monitors, and host community inspectors licensed by the DEP. CEP has two active inspectors who monitor Covanta. We also

use the DEP website called "EFAC." EFAC reports the details of the DEP inspections of all industries in PA. Covanta has not had a major violation in more than ten years, while some industries have consistent violations and has been fined by the State as well as the Federal Government. PQ Corporation, a consistent violator, which has more than \$2 million dollars in fines. Delcora was fined \$1.3 million dollars by the Justice Department but is working to resolve all issues related to their fine.

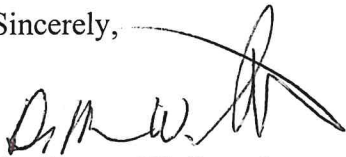
It is my understanding that there are groups representing themselves as representatives of Chester residents, which have a questionable representation for using Chester to promote their own agenda. These groups are headed by Mike Ewall and Zulene Mayfield. Both have questionable reputations in the EJ movement. Mike Ewall was a former member of CEP in charge of Environmental Protection. When given an assignment to investigate a company who came to CEP with some new technology to safely burn trees, Mike instead of reporting his findings to CEP, went off on his own, and had a protest in front of the home of the owner of the company, and turned the issue into a political issue.

I am also the founding Chairman of Chester Residency for Quality Living. After turning the leadership over to Zulene Mayfield, she dissolved the organization ten years ago, abandoned Chester, and out of the clear blue sky, has emerged to fight Covanta. These people are paid activist, they profit off making Covanta look like a bad neighbor, and an environmentally unsafe facility.

I have years of expertise in EJ, having served three appointments to NEJAC (National Environmental Justice Advisory Council), advising the secretary of the EPA on EJ issues. I currently serve on the PA DEP Advisory Board. I, along with other statewide leaders in EJ, advise the Secretary of the DEP.

I am asking that you think twice before allowing a paid group of activists who will leave Chester after their work is done, influence you to think negatively of an industry that is a good neighbor, and provides a needed service to Delaware County.

Sincerely,



Dr. Horace W. Strand
Chester Environmental Partnership

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