

**Board of Clark County Commissioners**

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**People for Safe Water**

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March 4, 2015

Reference: Tremont Barrel Fill

Governor John Kasich  
Riffe Center, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor Kasich,

Thank you for allowing us to present our local issues pertaining to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the Record of Decision for the Tremont Barrel Fill in Clark County near Springfield, Ohio. We have been working with a variety of local, state and federal officials on this significant matter potentially affecting over 80,000 Clark County residents. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) is the cornerstone to continued sole source aquifer protection for our entire region.

The site in question is called the Tremont Barrel Fill. This was a permitted barrel fill in the 1970's when over 3,000,000 gallons of liquid and solid industrial waste were interred in the unlined landfill. It is estimated that half of the wastes buried in the ground are "hazardous" wastes by the state and federal definitions. The Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) group signed an Administrative Order on Consent with US EPA in 2002. In June of 2010, US EPA Region 5 issued the Proposed Plan 4a to permanently remove all hazardous wastes from the site. All of the local jurisdictions accepted Alternative 4a as a compromise allowing the non-hazardous solid wastes to be reburied at the site. As a result of public comments by another PRP, Chemical Waste Management, the U.S. EPA Region 5 issued another Proposed Plan, Alternative 9a in June 2011. Alternative 9a is not accepted by any of the local jurisdictions for a variety of reasons including the re-interment of hazardous wastes on the site in a manner outside of the OEPA's hazardous waste regulations.

**Our request is for the OEPA to continue their support for Alternative 4, permanent removal of all hazardous wastes.** A strong argument for this position is reflected in the Court of Appeals of Ohio, Tenth Appellate District Opinion Nos. 98AP-1481 and 98AP-1482 on the appeals of the Environmental Board of Review, State of Ohio Case No. EBR 112570 where the adjoining property was refused a permit to install a newly constructed and lined municipal solid waste landfill. Due to similar geology next door where the Tremont Barrel fill is situated, a new landfill was denied. The reasons for the permit denial of the adjacent property is a valid argument for denying the reburial of hazardous wastes at the Tremont Barrel Fill as Alternative 9a requires, especially in light of the fact that it was not appropriate for municipal solid waste let alone hazardous wastes.

There are many other arguments in favor of permanently removing all of the hazardous wastes from the site, Alternative 4a, ranging from technical to legal reasons. We feel this example is one that clearly shows the practicality for the continued support for the locally favored remedy.

We are pleased to share this information with you and your staff as we continue the journey toward removing this potential scourge to our invaluable water resources in Springfield and Clark County. Please contact any of our offices for any additional information or for clarification of any questions. We are certainly available at your convenience.

Sincerely,

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Richard L. Lohnes, President  
Board of Clark County Commissioners

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Dan Young, President  
Board of Health  
Clark County Combined Health District

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David Hartley, Commissioner  
Board of Clark County Commissioners

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Dala DeWitt, RN, BSN, Vice-President  
Board of Health  
Clark County Combined Health District

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John Detrick, Commissioner  
Board of Clark County Commissioners

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Board of Health Member  
Clark County Combined Health District

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Board of Health Member  
Clark County Combined Health District

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Ethan Reynolds, Council Member  
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Michael McDorman, President  
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

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William McIntire  
City Council of New Carlisle