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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

MUNICIPAL OFFICES  
MORRIS COUNTY  
LONG VALLEY, N. J. 07853

39824

43 Schooley's Mtn. Rd.  
P. O. Box 216

Area Code 201  
876-3315

August 22, 1980

Mr. Gary Molchan, General Manager  
Combe Landfill, Inc.  
Parker Rd.  
Chester, N. J. 07930

Subject: Leachate entering stream that crosses at rear of Bostick property and crosses through Tingué property

Dear Mr. Molchan:

On June 18, 1980 an inspection was made at the above locations by Mary Lou Caffarra, Washington Township Sanitarian and Mr. Fred Bailey of Radtke Associates.

The sanitarian's report to me was that the stream at both locations was discolored and that there was a reddish residue on the bottom and sides of the stream.

On August 22, 1980 I went to both the above subject locations to observe for myself the findings of June 18, 1980.


I supervised the taking of water samples at several points along the way, however, in my opinion it appears that somewhere at the landfill site leachate is getting into this stream.

If you will recall, on April 11, 1980, Committeeman Tracy Tobin, reporter Brenda Payne from the Observer Tribune, Miss Caffarra, and myself were shown the workings of your landfill, and, a discussion was held regarding the ponded leachate at the rear of your landfill as it pertained to utilizing some protection to prevent this from reaching the nearby stream.

It now appears that some type of protection must be afforded this stream.

Should you care to check the areas that I mention, please feel free to call me at the Washington Township municipal building.

Very truly yours,

  
Raynor H. Rudolph  
Health Officer

RHR:sl

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P.O. Box 1652  
Corrales  
New Mexico  
87048

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Chester Board of Health  
Chester Township  
New Jersey  
07930

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP  
HEALTH DEPT.

Gentlemen:

It is with grave concern that we write to you.

A few years ago (1970's), the brook on our property on Parker Road was heavily polluted by the "Sanitary" Landfill in Chester (the Filiberto operation). After much effort on our part and of others, and after many phone calls and much correspondence, inspections were finally granted. As a result the Landfill was required to lay a blanket of plastic under the large offending pool of pollution and to close the dug runoff draining into our brook. Test wells were also established for periodical checkups. We never heard, however, how often the test wells were checked, and never saw any reports of these tests.

Today we write of an even more serious problem. Although the surface waters of the upper brook seem to be clear, a spring of polluted water is bubbling up near our pond and running into the lower part of the brook, which is polluted again and carrying pollution on downstream as before, to the neighboring pond owned by the Tingues. The water then continues to flow downhill to Hacklebarney State Park where previously the polluted water killed the fish and where it certainly may do so again.

We believe that pollution bubbling up in such a manner can come only from underground leachate from the landfill. Other such springs could occur in innumerable places. The landfill has now built such high mountains of refuse that they have in fact created a high head of pressure that forces the polluted material down farther underground.

An investigation and tests should be made immediately. We need not point out to you how serious a problem this is or how detrimental to the environment, and most of all to health.

Laws concerning the control of landfills should be strictly enforced and other methods of disposal of waste be sought after immediately. We recommend that all dumping in this area so close to so many properties where people live should cease as soon as possible, and, in the meantime a water treatment plant should be installed to take care of leachate. The effects of leachate in the soil can last for years. Leachate is poison.

CC: Mayor Warlick  
Dept. of Environmental Protection  
State Park Commission  
Raritan Upper Watershed  
Bd. of Health  
Washington Township

Very sincerely yours,  
*Virginia L. Bostick*  
Virginia L. Bostick  
*Winston H. Bostick*  
Winston H. Bostick  
Permanent residence  
987 RR2, Parker Road  
Chester, N.J. 07930

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