
SENECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

June 23, 2022

IN THE MATTER OF: RESOLUTION TO STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY EXPANSION OR GROWTH AT SUNNY FARMS LANDFILL

_____ offered the following resolution and moved the adoption of same, which was duly seconded by _____

WHEREAS, The Seneca County Commissioners, Mr. Anthony Paradiso, Mr. Mike Kerschner and Mr. Tyler Shuff met this 23rd day of June 2022 in open and regular session, and

WHEREAS, noting that the Ohio Revised Code Section 3734.02 outlines rules for inspecting and licensing solid waste facilities, such as Sunny Farms Landfill located in Loudon Township of Seneca County, to ensure that the facilities will be located, maintained and operated in a sanitary manner so as not to create a nuisance, cause or contribute to water pollution, create a health hazard or violate 40 C.F.R. 257.3-2 or 40 C.F.R. 257.3-8, as amended, and

WHEREAS, recognizing that WIN Waste Innovations®, the operator of Sunny Farms Landfill, has filed a Permit to Install Application with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to expand the north unit of the landfill, and

WHEREAS, further recognizing that the expansion would significantly grow the footprint of the landfill both horizontally and vertically, allowing for more waste to be accepted daily. If the permit is approved by the Ohio EPA as submitted, it would increase the landfill's allowable daily intake from 7,500 tons to 12,000 tons, making it comparable with the intake currently allowed at Ohio's largest landfills, and

WHEREAS, clarifying that the Seneca County Board of Commissioners has no direct authority over the regulation of landfills, while also emphasizing the importance of timely action by the Ohio EPA, the Seneca County General Health District, and any other regulatory authorities to ensure that the landfill complies with all state and federal rules and regulations, and

WHEREAS, emphasizing the importance of the health and safety of all residents and committing to working closely with the necessary agencies to ensure that citizens are protected from harmful emissions or other potential hazards created by the landfill, and

WHEREAS, noting that Sunny Farms Landfill was the 9th largest producer of sulfur dioxide in the state of Ohio in 2020, according to the Ohio EPA's statewide emissions inventory for 2020, with sulfur dioxide emissions significantly higher than what is allowed at compliant landfills across the state, and

WHEREAS, further noting that while improvements have been made over the past three years under the provisions of a Partial Consent Order between the State of Ohio/Ohio EPA and Sunny Farms Landfill, the landfill will not come into compliance with the Clean Air Act until mid-2023 at the earliest, which does not remediate the impact of high sulfur dioxide emissions over past decades on the environment, and

RESOLVED, this board strongly opposes any expansion or growth at Sunny Farms Landfill and urges the landfill's operators to make significant improvements in controlling emissions and completely mitigating potentially harmful health effects at the landfill's current size, and

RESOLVED, this board respectfully requests that WIN Waste Innovations® rescind its Permit to Install Application for expansion of the north unit until Sunny Farms Landfill demonstrates compliance with the Clean Air Act and with all other state and federal rules and regulations, as required of all solid waste facilities in the state of Ohio, and

RESOLVED, this board supports and advocates for the Ohio EPA and Seneca County General Health District to hold Sunny Farms Landfill accountable to the standards met by other landfills across the state through frequent inspections, any necessary enforcement actions, and the introduction of additional controls and safeguards at the facility to ensure compliance with consent orders and all state and federal rules and regulations with respect for the health and safety of Seneca County residents, and

RESOLVED, this board further recommends that the Seneca County General Health District commit more funding and resources to environmental experts to ensure that Sunny Farms Landfill is compliant not only with existing consent orders but also with all state and federal rules and regulations for solid waste facilities, and

RESOLVED, this board commits to working with the Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca Joint Solid Waste Management District to closely examine current policies and enact new, more effective policies to hold the landfill accountable for being compliant with all state and federal rules and regulations while also exploring all options to maximize community benefits from having a landfill, and

RESOLVED, that it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions, were in meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law.

Mr. Paradiso – _____

Mr. Kerschner – _____

Mr. Shuff – _____

Attest: _____

Clerk to the Board

I, the undersigned, Clerk To the Board Seneca County, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy from the official record of said Board of County Commissioners as recorded in Journal 90, Page _____

Clerk to the Board