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Borough of Bangor

Established 1875

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Lynn R. Martocci, Borough Secretary and Treasurer
Linda M. Paynter, Borough Clerk

2808

Environmental Quality Board
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

14 December 2009

Dear Environmental Quality Board Members:

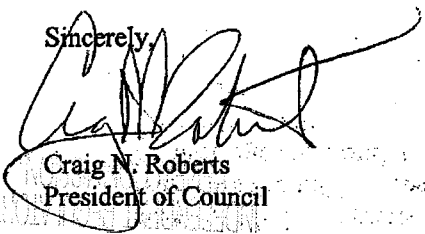
We being members of Bangor Borough Council are very concerned with the purported beneficial use of coal ash. As the host municipality for the Bangor Ash Disposal Site (BADs), our quality of life may have been compromised daily since 1977. We do not believe that ash, which is characterized by a presence of heavy metals and other toxic substances, can be safely re-used as road fill, traction material, concrete blocks, kitchen countertops, etc.

Consider that:

1. Elevated levels of leachable arsenic were found at BADs on 7/23/2007 during a coal ash analysis;
2. A Reliant annual chemical analysis of 40,000 tons of fly ash dated 6 June 2005 indicated arsenic, cadmium, cyanide, mercury, dioxin and many other toxins were present in the ash. These harmful substances, via leachate and sedimentation ponds, are/may eventually be discharged into Bushy Meadow Creek which is a designated for Trout Stocking Fish, aquatic life, water supply and recreation;
3. Approximately 3/4 mile from BADs are Meadowbrook Mobil Home Park which contains one well serving approximately 98 people and Hartzell's Auction Gallery, which has one well serving three families and the public;
4. A 2004 Compliance History of Reliant indicated violations from 1996-2002 including failure to take reasonable actions to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne;
5. In 2001, 1,772 tons of fly ash and 285.56 tons of bottom ash were "beneficially used" from BADs; in 2002 481.27 tons of fly ash were so used. This potentially toxic material is now present in our air, streams, soil and bodies.

Our empty quarries are a valuable source of water. Other uses potentially pose a risk to that valuable resource. We respectfully request the re-use of all coal ash be evaluated in depth and a safe final resting place must be contained in a state of the art location which safely manages any hazardous waste which may be present in the material. To protect our future we must find ways to utilize renewable energy sources such as sun and wind.

Sincerely,


Craig N. Roberts
President of Council

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

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