



Paula A. Mahan
Town Supervisor

TOWN OF COLONIE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Public Operations Center
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John H. Cunningham
Commissioner of Public Works

December 9, 2015

RECEIVED

DEC 11 2015

TOWN OF HALFMOON
Office of the Supervisor

Kevin J. Tollisen, Supervisor
Town of Halfmoon
2 Halfmoon Town Plaza
Halfmoon, NY 12065

Dear Supervisor Tollisen:

I am writing in response to your letter of November 4, 2015 related to the Colonie Landfill. As the largest single municipality in the region, the Town of Colonie is keenly aware of our need to work collectively with neighboring municipalities to meet resident's concerns regarding this facility.

The Colonie Landfill is a regional asset that has been developed over that last 40 years to primarily service municipalities in Albany, Saratoga, Rensselaer and Schenectady counties. This facility is an important component to the regions overall waste management program. As owner, and previously as operator, the Town continues to work with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYDEC) to ensure that we meet the requirements of our operating permits.

Part of our permit process is to demonstrate that we are addressing all the environmental concerns that are inherent to landfill operations. The application process for approval to construct new waste cells at the facility requires that we conduct a complete environmental assessment as required under SEQRA. This process will look at all aspects of the proposed Landfill operation. The Town of Halfmoon, as well as all other neighboring municipalities are named as Interested Parties to SEQRA and will be kept abreast of this process as it proceeds. There will be an opportunity for all Interested Parties to comment on the environmental impact that the proposed changes at the landfill may create. NYDEC has been named as lead agency in the SEQRA process. The Town of Colonie as well as NYDEC will work to ensure that landfill operation's continues to protect our environment as well as the health and safety of neighboring residents.

Daily operation of the landfill includes a requirement that all trash be covered at the close of each business day to prevent debris from becoming airborne and to help control odors. NYDEC allows landfill operators to use certain kinds of waste material (e.g. Petroleum contaminated soil, ash from waste incinerators, and auto-fluff) for, what is referred to as, Alternate Daily Cover (ADC). Until recently, the Town of Colonie's operating permit was silent on the amount of



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ADC that we were allowed to use as cover. The Town of Colonie as well as Capital Region Landfills Inc. and NYDEC worked collaboratively to establish a maximum daily and annual ADC total. The amount of daily cover being used has not changed. Instead it is the amount of ADC material that is mixed with the daily cover material that has decreased. The landfill operator did not accept more trash at the landfill than is allowable under our existing permit.

I hope this information addresses some of your concerns regarding the Landfill operation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 783-6292 (option #1. Engineering Dept.)

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John H. Cunningham".

John H. Cunningham
Commissioner of Public Works

cc: Supervisor Mahan