

TOWN OF MONTAGUE  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
SITE ASSIGNMENT HEARING  
JULY 9, 1996

A Public Hearing to discuss the Modification of an Existing Solid Waste Site Assignment was held on July 9, 1996, at 7:00 P.M. at the Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, MA. Present were Lloyd May, Al Cummings Board of Health; Joan Barry, Director of Health; Leon Momaney, Bradford Councilman, Selectmen; Debra Radway, Executive Secretary; Edward Mleczeko, Jr., Superintendent of Streets; Tad Montgomery, FCSWMD; Linda McPartlan; and Robert G. Newton, Electrical Inspector.

Lloyd May read the Notice Hearing.

Joan Barry stated for the record that the Board of Health has not received any pre-filed direct testimony on this matter.

Lloyd May stated the purpose of the hearing.

JOAN BARRY: The Public Notice was published in The Recorder on June 15, 17, 18, and 19, 1996, to satisfy the requirements of 310 CMR 15.20. The original Site Assignment for the Montague Sanitary Landfill was issued by the Department of Environmental Protection in 1988. Governing regulations were promulgated by the Department of Environmental Protection in 1994. Therefore, the language has changed from the original Site Assignment which was Landfill to a Solid Waste Management Facility. The purpose of this hearing is to modify the existing Site Assignment to include a Solid Waste Management Facility. This would permit the siting of a Sludge Processing Treatment Facility. The Town has applied for the Determination of Need.

The hearing was opened for comments from the floor.

BRADFORD COUNCILMAN: Tonight's meeting is the tenth widely publicized public meeting dealing with the issue of the construction of this proposed Sludge Processing Facility. The first meeting took place at the close of the Special Town Meeting in August of 1994. Eight other meetings were held after that first meeting to provide as much information as possible to the public.

LINDA MCPARTLAN, 23 Randall Wood Drive: She is concerned with having the Sludge Processing Facility so close to her property. She would like to know why the Town picked this site rather than a site that was not in a residential neighborhood.

JOAN: There is not a site in Town where such a facility could be sited. The landfill already has a site assignment for a regional landfill and it only needs a modification of that site assignment

to have a Sludge Processing Facility at that location.

LINDA McPARTLAN: Why can't the facility be located in a different location?

DEB RADWAY: It is not impossible to locate the facility in a different location. However, to do this would require the Town to repeat the process that it has spent the past seven or eight years doing since the mid-eighties until 1993. The Town has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on hydrogeological studies and designing a facility at that site. Tonight we are asking for the definition of the permitted use for the facility to be broadened beyond the scope of Landfill to include a Solid Waste Management Facility incorporating a Sludge Handling and Processing Facility. The site chosen is much further away from Randall Wood Drive than the existing sanitary landfill. It is much closer to Turnpike Road and Greenfield Road.

LINDA McPARTLAN: Questioned an article voted down at Town Meeting.

BRADFORD COUNCILMAN: What was voted down was the financing for the proposed landfill, not the landfill itself. He reiterated that the Town has invested a huge amount of taxpayers money on engineering work, etc. to qualify this site to be used for Solid Waste Management purposes. This site has been used for this purpose prior to WW II.

LINDA McPARTLAN: How can you use the permission you have for a landfill for a Solid Waste Management Facility?

BRADFORD COUNCILMAN: The Town's legal ability to construct a landfill on that site still exists today. We could go back to Town Meeting and ask for appropriations to go ahead with that project. The fact that at that particular point in time there was resistance to in the community to authorize a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion in order to build the landfill does not mean that the potential use of that site for a landfill or another solid waste purpose was eliminated.

LINDA McPARTIAN: The existing landfill has affected the quality of life for people in the neighborhood. She does not want that to worsen with this new proposal. She is concerned about odors.

DEB RADWAY: We are not here tonight to discuss the pros and cons of a particular type of facility. On March 14, 1988, the Board of Health voted to assign, with some conditions, parcels of land off Turnpike Road for a Sanitary Landfill according to M.G.L. Chapter 111, Section 158. What we are asking for tonight is to broaden the definition of Sanitary Landfill to also include the words Solid Waste Management Facility.

JOAN BARRY: The only purpose of this hearing is to broaden the scope of the definition of the landfill. It is not to give

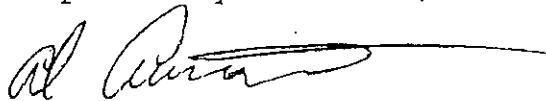
permission for construction of a Sludge Processing Facility. There will be more meetings to address issues. There will be odor control measures if the Sludge Processing Facility is constructed. The Board of Health will notify Linda McPartian of any other meetings on this matter.

There being no further comments on this matter, Lloyd May made a motion to modify the existing landfill site assignment to include a Solid Waste Management Facility which could possibly include a Sludge Processing Facility. The motion was seconded by Al Cummings. The vote was unanimous.

JOAN BARRY: She went to a seminar offered by a Rudolf Chaney, expert of Bio-Solids, at the University of Massachusetts. A video tape is available through the Board of Health Office. Another tape available is called "Positively Sludge," which is about sludge management, use and disposal. In the packets handed out to you is information on Bio-solids, land applications, and metal uptake of plants and soils.

The hearing was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Al Cummings  
Recording Secretary



## MONTAGUE HEALTH DEPT.

One Avenue A • Turners Falls, MA 01376 • 413-863-3202

### M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** LARRY HANSON - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
**FROM:** MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH  
**DATE:** JULY 3, 1996  
**RE:** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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This is a copy of the public notice which was printed in the Greenfield Recorder on Saturday, June 15, 1996, and Monday through Wednesday, June 17 through 19, 1996. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call this office. Thank you for being so helpful throughout this process.

**TOWN OF MONTAGUE  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on July 9, 1996, AT 7:00 P.M., at the Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, concerning a requested Modification to an Existing Solid Waste Site Assignment.

The Town of Montague Board of Health is requesting Modification to an Existing Solid Waste Facility Site Assignment for acreage of Town owned land located off Turnpike Road in Montague, MA, adjacent to the Town's existing sanitary landfill. The requested modification is to amend the existing Landfill site assignment to also include a Solid Waste Management Facility which would include a processing facility for Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge (WWTP). This Facility would include a Recycling Drop Off Center, a Transfer Station, and a Leaf Composting Operation, none of which require a modification to the Existing Site Assignment.

A sludge processing facility would accept and process WWTP sludge from surrounding towns. Daily tonnage for a sludge processing facility would not exceed the tonnage limit of 200 tons per day as outlined in the existing site assignment for the property.

Permitted hours of operation may include Mondays through Saturdays from 7:00 A.M. to 9 P.M.

This Modification of an Existing Site Assignment is being requested by:

The Town of Montague  
Board of Health  
Town Hall  
One Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01377

The Department of Environmental Protection has issued a determination that the proposed Modification to the previously site assigned area does not require a Site Suitability Report. Copies of the Department's determination, as well as the original Site Assignment and other supporting information, are available for review and copying between the hours of 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday to Friday at the Montague Board of Health office at the address above.

The time period for acceptance of written comments on the proposed Modification is from June 18, 1996 to July 8, 1996. Written comments should be mailed to the Town of Montague Board of Health at the address above, and also to:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Solid Waste Management  
436 Dwight Street  
Springfield, MA 01103

**RECORDER ACCT. #38500**



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

FILE COPY

WILLIAM F. WELD  
Governor

May 10, 1996

TRUDY COXE  
Secretary

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI  
Lt. Governor

DAVID B. STRUHS  
Commissioner

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Montague  
One Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA  
01377

Attention: Deborah Radway, Executive Secretary

RE: Montague-DSWM-WWTP Sludge  
Site Assignment Modification  
Turnpike Road Landfill  
96-192-002

Dear Ms. Radway:

On March 6, 1996, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (the Department) received a letter from you concerning solid waste site assignment issues for the possible location of a municipal wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) sludge processing facility, solid waste transfer station, or recycling facility adjacent to the Town of Montague's sanitary landfill on Turnpike Road. In your letter, you had inquired: (A) whether a site suitability report and/or new site assignment would be required to site a WWTP sludge processing facility, transfer station or recycling center on the Town-owned parcel which had previously been site assigned for the regional landfill; and (B) whether such facilities could be sited on the parcel without a change in site assignment, according to the provisions of 310 CMR 16.21.

The Department has reviewed your letter, and has made the following determinations:

(1) The construction of a WWTP sludge processing plant on the previously site assigned area would not require a site suitability report, but would require a modification of the existing site assignment. If so desired, such a modification must be conducted by the Montague Board of Health according to MGL c. 111, sec. 150A and 310 CMR 16.20, including the holding of a public hearing. As outlined in 310 CMR 16.20(7)(b), public notice shall be published a minimum of 21 days prior to the hearing. As outlined in 310 CMR 16.20(13), the Board of Health shall publish public notice within seven days of issuance of its decision, and any aggrieved persons may appeal the decision within 30 days of such notice, according to the provisions of MGL c. 30A, sec. 14.

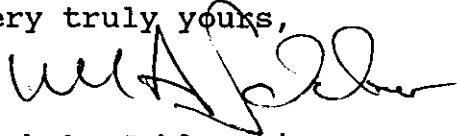
Following the 30 day appeal period, a Solid Waste Facility Permit (Authorization-to Construct and Authorization-to-Operate) would be required, as outlined in 310 CMR 19.030.

(2) The construction of a solid waste transfer station on the previously site assigned area would not require a modification of the site assignment (as outlined in 310 CMR 16.21); a Solid Waste Facility Permit would be required according to 310 CMR 19.030.

(3) Location of a recycling center would not require modification of the site assignment. If recycling activities met the conditional exemptions outlined in 310 CMR 16.05(3), a Solid Waste Facility Permit would not be required, otherwise permitting would be required according to 310 CMR 19.030.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Larry Hanson of this office at (413) 784-1100 ext. 287.

Very truly yours,



Mark A. Schleeweis  
Section Chief  
Division of Solid Waste Management

MAS/LGH/lgh  
montsa.596

cc: Joan Barry, Montague Board of Health  
Ed Mleczko, Montague Highway Supt.  
Bob Rottenberg, Franklin Co. Solid Waste Mgt. District