



SHAKER HEIGHTS

February 23, 2012

Cleveland Division of Air Quality
75 Erieview Plaza, Suite 200
Cleveland, OH, 44114
Attn: David Hearne

Re: CPP Ridge Road Permit #PO107767; Facility ID 1318008750.

Dear Mr. Hearne:

I am writing to express my community's concern about the proposed Ridge Road gasification plant.

We understand that the City of Cleveland is proposing the plant as a way to reduce the cost of trucking trash to landfills, reduce the amount of trash that is put into landfills, produce electricity, create jobs and further recycling efforts in the City. These are, of course, all laudable goals; several of which we share as a community struggling with budget issues while striving to promote "green" initiatives.

However, as Mayor I also must consider the impact a large new source of air pollutants will have on the health of the residents of my community. While the City of Shaker Heights is several miles away from the Ridge Road facility, we are located directly down-wind of the proposed trash gasification plant.

Several reputable non-profit health and environmental advocacy organizations have commented and raised issues concerning the proposed plant that I believe are critical to consider and answer before approval would be given to the proposed facility.

For example, the Earth Day Coalition, Environmental Health Watch and Ohio Citizen Action stated in a letter dated September 19, 2011, that they are "troubled that those who live and work closest to this facility will be most impacted by harmful emissions, and that pollutants will be carried long distances and persist in our environment for decades." This is based on their initial analysis of documents prepared by the City that described the proposed gasification plant as involving the cooking of trash at high temperatures and the release of toxic pollutants into the air. They found that the facility would become one of the top air polluters in Cuyahoga County, especially with regards to certain types of pollutants such as mercury and particulate matter.

The Ohio Environmental Council submitted comments to you dated January 13, 2012. The OEC, like the other groups mentioned above, is concerned that this plant may become the largest

source of mercury pollution in Cuyahoga County, and they raised other important concerns in their comments that must be addressed before an air permit is approved.

The permit application lists the allowable emissions that would come from the plant, among them pollutants with obnoxious odors associated with them, especially the Dioxin. Such odors can negatively impact communities even when the actual pollutants emitted are within legally acceptable ranges.

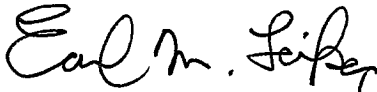
It appears there are many unanswered concerns about the amount, type and quality of the trash that will provide the fuel for the plant and the impact of adding such a large new source of air pollution as our area struggles to regain its economic footing.

Finally, I want to impress upon the Division of Air Quality, whose jurisdiction covers all of Cuyahoga County, that such a large new source of pollutants must be evaluated not only for its impact in the immediate neighborhood surrounding the plant, but also the impact in other communities in the County that will likely also be affected.

In conclusion, we ask that the application for an air permit not be approved until a thorough study by experts is conducted which explains the air pollution consequences of the plant on Cleveland and surrounding communities.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,



Earl M. Leiken
Mayor

Ec: Dr. Scott Frank, Director of Health, City of Shaker Heights