

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/falls/proposed-incinerator-to-go-before-bristol-twp-zoners/article_a5155a49-7e10-5e2b-8d94-b1c342164387.html

Proposed incinerator to go before Bristol Twp. zoners

Posted: Thursday, December 5, 2013 10:51 pm | Updated: 3:28 pm, Fri Dec 6, 2013.

By ANTHONY DIMATTIA STAFF WRITER

The placement of a proposed incinerator off the Delaware River in Bristol Township has some residents on both banks of the river concerned.

The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board on Monday will hear an application by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia for an industrial waste burning facility which would be constructed in a commercial park off Route 413. The company is challenging the township's zoning ordinance and is requesting variances, according to the agenda.

The facility, which includes two parcels in the Bridge Business Center on George Patterson Boulevard, most likely would be used to incinerate pharmaceutical materials, Bristol Township Councilman Craig Bowen said Thursday.

The proposed 50,000-square-foot building would sit between the Delaware River and Dow Chemical property near Route 413.

Yet, residents argued that they had barely heard about the project publicly before it was placed on the zoning board's agenda and were concerned about the possible risk it may pose to the area.

"The people of Burlington, Bristol and Croydon are rightfully to be concerned if something goes wrong (at the site)," Croydon resident Richard Heierling said Thursday. "(Residents) are questioning if this should be granted."

Residents in Burlington County are keeping a close eye on the issue as well.

Representatives from the company will go before the township's zoning hearing board 7 p.m. Monday at the municipal building, 2501 Bath Road.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/pa-incinerator-plan-riles-burlington-county-towns/article_356b66b5-50e4-5517-ad47-06e0649c70ad.html

Pa. incinerator plan riles Burlington County towns

Posted: Thursday, December 5, 2013 2:20 pm | Updated: 11:58 am, Fri Dec 6, 2013.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

Officials from several Burlington County riverfront towns are concerned about potential quality-of-life issues and safety hazards that could result from a company's plan to build an industrial materials burner in Bristol Township, a riverfront town in Bucks County, Pa.

The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board will hear an application Monday by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Montgomery County, for the facility, which would be built in a commercial park off Route 413. The company is challenging the township's zoning ordinance and is requesting variances, according to the agenda.

Bristol Township Councilman Craig Bowen said the company operates a wastewater treatment plant and that the incinerator most likely would be used for pharmaceutical materials.

Officials from Beverly, Burlington City, Burlington Township, Edgewater Park and Florence planned to meet Friday at Burlington City Hall to discuss a course of action.

"The whole county of Burlington could be impacted," said David Ballard, Burlington City's business administrator and community development director, who organized the Friday meeting.

The incinerator would occupy two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near Street Road.

The center is adjacent to international specialty chemical companies Rohm & Haas (which was purchased by Dow Chemical Co. in 2009), Rhodia Inc. and Arkema Inc., according to www.bridgebusinesscenter.com.

Gamesa Energy and Dow Chemical are listed on the website as "corporate neighbors."

Officials from Burlington County municipalities said they wish they had received advance notice about the incinerator plan.

"Here, getting this information at the eleventh hour," said Walter Corter, administrator for Burlington Township, where citizens and officials successfully protested a plan for a toxic waste incinerator near the Burlington Center Mall in 1986.

"In that case, at least we had appropriate notice that the state was looking to locate a site here. It gave us appropriate time to do research on the matter," Corter said.

Route 13 Bridge Partners LP met with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection officials informally in October to discuss what permits were needed, said Deborah Fries, a spokeswoman for the agency's Southeast region.

"However, we have not heard from them since and do not have any kind of formal submission in-house," Fries said.

Bob Considine, a spokesman for the New Jersey DEP, said agency officials are "aware of concerns" regarding the application.

"It is something we intend to evaluate from the perspective of a downwind neighboring state," Considine said.

Corter and other municipal officials said they learned about the plan only when contacted by Ballard of Burlington City.

Edgewater Park and Florence are no strangers to quality-of-life issues resulting from Bucks County industry.

Odors from the former Rohm & Haas have drifted over to Edgewater Park for "years," according to the township's clerk-administrator, Linda Dougherty.

"Of course, the prevailing winds tend to come to New Jersey. You have a lot of schoolchildren; you have a lot of athletic fields," said Dougherty, adding that the Township Committee discussed the situation at its Tuesday meeting.

Residents in Florence deal with odors from Waste Management Inc.'s Tullytown landfill, which receives more than 275,000 tons of trash a year.

Administrators from Florence and Beverly expressed concerns, but said they hesitated to comment before learning more about the proposal.

In May 2012, several Burlington County towns were engulfed in odors when lightning struck Dow Chemical tanks.

Staff writer Anthony DiMattia contributed to this story.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/bristol-twp-incinerator-hearing-postponed/article_cdc260d9-2749-5750-8504-cafd3dbe56ef.html

Bristol Twp. incinerator hearing postponed

Posted: Monday, December 9, 2013 3:44 pm | Updated: 7:29 am, Tue Dec 10, 2013.

By Jeannie O'Sullivan Staff writer

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP - The hearing on a controversial application for an industrial materials burner in the Bridge Business Center has been postponed until the Zoning Hearing Board's next meeting, scheduled for Jan. 13.

The postponement was requested by the company that made the application, the Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Montgomery County. The hearing had been scheduled for Monday night.

The company wants to construct the incinerator on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard. The proposed 50,000-square-foot building would sit between the Delaware River and the Dow Chemical property, near Route 413.

The company didn't state a reason for the postponement in the written request it submitted to the township, said Glenn M. Kucher, director of building, planning and zoning for the township.

The company is challenging the township's zoning ordinance and is requesting variances of those ordinances, according to the agenda.

The plan has drawn concern from residents of riverfront towns in both Bucks and Burlington counties.

The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meets at 7 p.m. in the municipal building, 2501 Bath Road.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/zoning-hearing-on-bristol-twp-incinerator-postponed/article_88ac7b60-f8bf-546d-8ad2-c121de2b908c.html

Zoning hearing on Bristol Twp. incinerator postponed

Posted: Monday, December 9, 2013 3:33 pm | Updated: 9:30 am, Tue Dec 10, 2013.

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP, Pa. - The hearing on a controversial application for an industrial materials burner at the Bridge Business Center has been postponed until the Zoning Hearing Board's next meeting on Jan. 13.

The application by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Pa., was originally scheduled for Monday night. The company wants to build the incinerator on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard. The proposed 50,000-square-foot facility would be located near the Dow Chemical property, off Route 413.

The company did not give a reason for the postponement in the written request submitted to the township, said Glenn M. Kucher, director of building, planning and zoning for the municipality.

The company is challenging the town's zoning ordinance and is requesting variances, according to the agenda.

The plan has drawn concern from residents of riverfront towns in both Bucks and Burlington counties.

The Zoning Hearing Board meets at 7 p.m. at the municipal building at 2501 Bath Road.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/burlco-freeholders-oppose-bucks-co-incinerator/article_7d9a9d3d-b104-5537-9b84-fc2e26ab3539.html

Burlco Freeholders oppose Bucks Co. incinerator

Posted: Wednesday, December 11, 2013 8:30 pm | Updated: 7:04 am, Thu Dec 12, 2013.

By Danielle Camilli Staff writer

MOUNT HOLLY - The Burlington County Board of Freeholders on Wednesday called for a Bucks County, Pa., town to reject plans to building a 50,000-square-foot hazardous waste incinerator along its riverfront.

The controversial plan calls for Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Pa., for the industrial materials burner to be built at the Bridge Business Center in Bristol Township. The municipality has a Zoning Hearing Board hearing to consider the matter at its Jan. 13.

The proposed 50,000-square-foot facility would be located near the Dow Chemical property, off Route 413. The freeholders unanimously passed the resolution in protest of the plan.

"With prevailing winds out of the west, those who will be most affected by this a are not represented in Pennsylvania," said Freeholder Deputy Director Leah Arter. "The residents of Burlington County not only need to have their voices heard on this issue, but also to have their health and quality of life protected."

She said she has heard concerns from county residents about feared impacts from the proposed incinerator.

The company is challenging the town's zoning ordinance and is requesting variances, according to the zoning board agenda. Officials could not be immediately reached Wednesday night.

The plan has drawn concern from residents of riverfront towns in both Bucks and Burlington counties. The freeholders also appointed a task force to further review the matter. It will include the director of the county health department, the county engineer and the director of the county solid waste department.

The Zoning Hearing Board meets at 7 p.m. at the municipal building at 2501 Bath Road in Bristol Township, Pa.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/burlco-freeholders-oppose-bucks-co-incinerator/article_28b90f4a-1a64-5460-bf3b-d52e00b1973a.html

Burlco Freeholders oppose Bucks Co. incinerator

Posted: Wednesday, December 11, 2013 8:30 pm | Updated: 7:04 am, Thu Dec 12, 2013.

By Danielle Camilli Staff writer

12/12/13 Bucks County Courier Times A6

2013 WLNR 31095218

Loaded Date: 12/12/2013

Bucks County Courier Times
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December 12, 2013

Section: 00redesign

Burlington County opposes incinerator in Bristol Township

Danielle Camilli

MOUNT HOLLY, N.J. - The Burlington County Board of Freeholders on Wednesday called for Bristol Township to reject plans to building a 50,000-square-foot hazardous waste incinerator along its riverfront.

The controversial plan calls for Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia for the industrial materials burner to be built at the Bridge Business Center in Bristol Township. The municipality has a Zoning Hearing Board hearing to consider the matter at its Jan. 13.

The proposed 50,000-square-foot facility would be located near the Dow chemical property, off Route 413. The freeholders unanimously passed the resolution in protest of the plan.

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the county health department, the county engineer and the director of the county solid waste department.

The Zoning Hearing Board meets at 7 p.m. at the municipal building at 2501 Bath Road in Bristol Township.

12/12/13 Intelligencer A12
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December 12, 2013

Section: 00redesign

Burlington opposes Bucks incinerator

Danielle Camilli

MOUNT HOLLY, N.J. - The Burlington County Board of Freeholders on Wednesday called for Bristol Township to reject plans to building a 50,000-square-foot hazardous waste incinerator along its riverfront.

The controversial plan calls for Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia for the industrial materials burner to be built at the Bridge Business Center in Bristol Township. The municipality has a Zoning Hearing Board hearing to consider the matter at its Jan. 13.

The proposed 50,000-square-foot facility would be located near the Dow chemical property, off Route 413. The freeholders unanimously passed the resolution in protest of the plan.

"With prevailing winds out of the west, those who will be most affected by this a are not represented in Pennsylvania," said Freeholder Deputy Director Leah Arter. "The residents of Burlington County not only need to have their voices heard on this issue, but also to have their health and quality of life protected."

She said she has heard concerns from county residents about feared impacts from the proposed incinerator.

The company is challenging the town's zoning ordinance and is requesting variances, according to the zoning board agenda. Officials could not be immediately reached Wednesday night.

The plan has drawn concern from residents of riverfront towns in both Bucks and Burlington counties. The freeholders also appointed a task force to further review the matter.

The Zoning Hearing Board meets at 7 p.m. at the municipal building at 2501 Bath Road in Bristol Township.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/incumbent-and-young-newcomer-take-oath-of-office-in-burlington/article_41e23fcf-ddfd-5c50-bcc1-2ad1132531dc.html

Incumbent and young newcomer take oath of office in Burlington City

Posted: Tuesday, January 7, 2014 9:15 pm | Updated: 10:48 am, Wed Jan 8, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

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The City Council also formalized its opposition to a proposed industrial incinerator in Bristol Township, Pa. The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board is set to hear an application by Bristol Partners, LLP of King of Prussia, Pa., on Monday night.

...

<http://www.trentonian.com/general-news/20140110/bucks-burner-could-cause-quite-a-stink>

Bucks burner could cause quite a stink

By Sherrina Navani, The Trentonian

POSTED: 01/10/14, 10:05 AM EST

TRENTON — There may be a strong stench in the air very soon, and it will be coming in from Bristol, Pa.

Members of the freeholder board spoke about a planned industrial materials burner in Bristol Township, a riverfront town in Bucks County, Pa. and its possible effect on the air quality in and around Trenton.

“Camden Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli, Jr. called me about a quarrel they are about to get into with a company who is building an incinerator in Bristol,” advised Freeholder John Cimino to the administration.

“The airflow coming this way may jeopardize the air quality here and so (Cappelli) is going to get me some information in regards to this so that the county of Mercer can join into that fight.”

Mercer County is willing to join the efforts to squash plans for the incinerator which can spew foul air into the local environment, however it may be an uphill battle because the fight will cross state lines, according to the County Administrator, Andrew Mair. “We really don’t have any jurisdiction on this,” he said.

In addition to new business, the board addressed old business and passed several resolutions including one to submit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to reimburse over \$1.3 million the county spent during Hurricane Sandy.

Additionally, the board approved an already submitted application for a \$2.5 million state Department of transportation grant which will help renovate the taxiways at the Trenton-Mercer Airport. The grant, if awarded, will pay for the third phase of the taxiway project, which will include paving and grading as well as lighting and draining upgrades. The total cost of this phase is \$2,652,000 of which the county would be responsible for just over \$150,000.

Freeholder Lucy Walter asked Mair to investigate already existing Airport Advisory Boards throughout the country and perhaps mimic their set up here in Mercer County. “I am not a big fan of reinventing the wheel,” she said.

Walter recommended looking to the AAB set up at the Westchester NY airport, comprised of eleven members who serve staggered three-year terms. This includes eight members who are residents of the county, five of who are also residents within proximity to the Westchester County Airport. One member of the board is appointed by the Chairman of the County Board and the remaining members are ex-officio members.

“The airport advisory group was not to stop the good things happening at the airport but to make sure as we go forward business, stakeholders and the community have an understanding of what’s being proposed so that misconceptions and errors are not made in planning,” said Walter, defending her

request to the administration from Tuesday night's meeting.

“I have not been against Frontier because they are flying the quietest planes available today to where people want to go and I support that effort. (When County Executive Brian Hughes said) I was opposed building a terminal, that is true because that terminal would have sat empty for 15 years and further the airlines we had at that time flew loud planes that were inappropriate for this community...it is important to protect the quality of life around airport,” said Walter.

The advisory board, which would create through the office of the County Executive, would help provide small business owners, residents and stakeholders a place to voice their concerns and issues, according to Walter. “For example, if a small business wants to advertise at the airport, that is not something the Freeholder Board can help them with, however if there is a committee, that meets regularly, then that business can go to a meeting to put in their request to the administration.”

<http://levittown.patch.com/groups/business-news/p/challenges-building-against-proposed-incinerator>
News | Business

Challenges Building Against Bristol Township Incinerator Proposal

The proposed construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in Bristol Township has drawn opposition from local residents and government officials in Burlington County, N.J.

Posted by James Boyle (Editor) , January 10, 2014 at 07:08 PM

The proposed hazardous waste incinerator will be installed at the Bridge Business Center in Bristol Township. Photo by James Boyle.

A brewing battle over a proposed hazardous waste incinerator has caught the attention not only from residents in Bristol Township but also government officials across the Delaware in Burlington County, N.J.

Route 13 Bristol Partners LP, with offices located in King of Prussia, will appear before the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board Monday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. to request variances that will allow the company to construct and operate a 50,392-square-foot incinerator that will be located in the Bridge Business Center, located off Route 413 just before the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

Tom Davis, who works at Ace Designs in the Bridge Business Center, said that installing the incinerator could have potentially harmful effects on township residents.

"They are actually looking at two pieces of property," said Davis. "One for the incinerator, and one for a set-up area that could hold up to 25 trucks. We are going to have trucks from all over the East Coast coming through our local communities with these hazardous materials."

Davis also expressed concern over the environmental impact of possible toxic fumes emitted by the equipment, a concern shared by the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

During its Dec. 11 meeting, the Freeholders passed a resolution calling on the Bristol Township Zoning Board to summarily reject the application, claiming that harmful emissions could travel across the river. "With prevailing winds out of the West, those who will be most affected by this hazardous waste incinerator are not represented in Pennsylvania," said Freeholder Deputy Director Leah Arter. "The residents of Burlington County not only need to have their voices heard on this issue, but also, to have their health and quality of life protected."

According to a spokesperson in the Freeholders' office of public information, Freeholder Deputy Director Joe Horwath and representatives from the county's solid waste and health departments will attend the hearing to voice their concerns. They will be joined by a growing faction of Bristol and Croydon residents who do not want the incinerator constructed in their community.

Calls to the Bristol Township manager's office have not been returned at time of publication.

Comments

John Morgan January 10, 2014 at 07:50 PM

i know as a township resident i do not want this near my home or i will be force to move . i am already

struggling with high taxes and this would just make me want to leave

Jim Jordan January 12, 2014 at 01:47 PM

This will lower ur taxes if anything. It would bring jobs to the area and would pose no risk to your or the environment. Don't be a sheep and listen to what your told. Do the research yourself and see. I m a borough resident and all for this. We need more jobs here to help pay for all the disability, welfare, and social security taxes that we already pay. The only people who wouldn't benefit from this are those who are not working drawling these benefits, what do they care.... They don't have to pay.

Sheila Wakowski January 13, 2014 at 01:37 PM

I'm concerned for my parents that live in Bristol Township. It is a fact that burning medical waste emits highly toxic byproducts like neurotoxins, carcinogens, heavey metals, acidic gases and more! That is from the EPA website. How can they control how much of each they emit? They can't! Why do all of these chemical factories locate in Bristol? I will tell you why: because MOST of the residents there are not well-educated, do not vote, and are low-income; therefore, they're viewed by business elites as cheap labor that doesn't complain in a township where council members can be bought.

Helene January 13, 2014 at 07:12 PM

Why is Bristol Township becoming the dumping ground? We, the residents receive nothing but higher taxes. Why not put something more practical for the residents of Pennsylvania AND New Jersey such as Windmills (The plant is right down the road) to show the residents politicians ARE thinking about helping residents and not their wasteful wants. Where is all that casino money going? Not to help lower taxes as told it would. For the people! Stop politics as usual or you may be voted out.

<http://levittownnow.com/2014/01/12/burner-draft/>

By Jeff Bohen January 12, 2014 0 Comments

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Waste Incinerator Plan Leaving Stink with Public and Officials

File Photo

File Photo

The hearing on a controversial application for an industrial materials burner in the Bridge Business Center will take place at Monday night at the Bristol Township Zoning Board Meeting.

The zoning board was scheduled to hear testimony at last months meeting but a postponement was requested by the Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Montgomery County, the company making application for variances to the township code

The proposed plan has drawn the ire of the the public on both sides of the Delaware River which has grown on social media this past week, leaving a nasty stench among the public, officials from New Jersey and Bristol Township about the incinerator.

The company plans to construct burners on two pieces of land on the George Patterson Boulevard. The proposed 50,000-square-foot building would sit between the Delaware River and the Dow Chemical property, close to Route 413.

The company didn't state a reason for the postponement in the written request it submitted to the township, according to township officials last month, however, officials from New Jersey, including former Governor Florio, who is representing Burlington City as special counsel plans to attend Monday's meeting he told the Burlington County Times on Friday

Florio, in that report, wondered if the board possessed the "expertise" to decide matter saying he hopes "common sense" is applied hoping the board fully understands the "fragility of the system."

Florio has been called an environmental crusader in the past and is credited with authoring New Jersey's Superfund laws.

The potential for acrid odors, which at times already are pervasive in the Lower Bucks County area is one of many concerns on both sides of the of the state line.

Heavy trucks filled with waste pounding on the already comprised roads of Croydon for example is another issue, one Bristol Township official said requesting they not be identified.

"Yes we're doing milling and paving work in the area, but maybe the company should be made responsible for the roads immediately surrounding and adjacent to the property so tax payers don't have to foot the stench and the bill for roads that could be potentially be damaged by the myriad of trucks coming back and forth daily, they said.

Medical waste is what the company wants to incinerate at the site if it was to open.

In December the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders passed a resolution on calling on the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board to reject the application citing concerns about the potential

damage to the environment and health of citizens, Freeholder Deputy Director Leah Arter told the Register-News

Sources close to the zoning board say the request for the variances will “likely pass” because the burners they use now are nothing like what was used in the past.

The technology has improved significantly, the source opined.

The company is challenging the township’s zoning ordinance and is requesting variances of those ordinances, according to Monday’s agenda.

1/12/14 Courier-Post (Cherry Hill, N.J.) B1
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January 12, 2014

Section: B

Proposal for Pa. burner drawsfire
January 12, 2014

Health and safety concerns have prompted Burlington County officials to oppose a hazardous waste incinerator proposed across the Delaware River in Bristol Township, Pa.

The Bristol zoning board will hold a public hearing Monday night on a plan by Route 13 Bristol Partners of King of Prussia, Pa., to build an incinerator that will burn pharmaceutical and industrial waste, including acetone.

CherryHill CherryHill

The proposed incinerator would be at the site of the defunct Rohm & Haas chemical manufacturing plant on Route 13 in Bristol, just across the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

"City officials felt it would be a health and safety concern for our residents, so we intend to fight this legally in every way possible," Burlington City Solicitor George Saponaro said at a Friday news conference with local, county and state officials.

Mayor James Fazzone announced the city has hired former Gov. James J. Florio's law firm to represent its interests.

"Bristol would be spilling off chemicals that would be harmful to the residents of the City of Burlington and other neighboring municipalities," said Fazzone, who called on the Bristol zoning board to reject the incinerator application.

He said "spewing who knows what?" can affect the river water supply and redevelopment initiatives.

For decades, residents in towns along the river breathed chemical odors from Rohm & Haas, which eventually improved its emissions after federal environmental laws were enacted. The plant closed 15 years ago.

The Route 13 Bristol Partners, a new company, filed the application for a zoning variance to construct a 50,000-square-foot incinerator with two smokestacks.

Frank Caruso, Burlington City's emergency management coordinator, said the proposal indicates each stack would burn 2,500 pounds of waste per hour, with 2 to 10 percent of emissions released into the atmosphere as particulate matter that can affect respiratory systems.

The county government and six of its municipalities — Burlington Township, Beverly, Florence, Edgewater Park, Delanco and Riverside — also oppose the facility.

"With prevailing winds from the west, it is the residents of Burlington County who will be most affected by the proposed industrial incinerator, raising concerns about negative impacts to their quality of life and the health of our environment," said county Freeholder Director Leah Arter.

She said the county has formed a task force to formulate an opposition plan.

Then-Congressman Florio wrote the federal Resource Recovery Act of 1976, regulating commercial incineration.

"This is a very strong law ... and hopefully we will be able to prevail," Florio said.

"They have to incinerate in a safe way, but you have residuals that are heavy metals that are dangerous, like cadmium."

The recovery law requires an operator be knowledgeable and meet emissions standards and damage control, training and contingency plan requirements.

Riverside Mayor George Conrad said he would like the state Department of Environmental Protection to get involved as a partner in opposition to the incinerator.

"I am an environmental consultant, and we are fighting this," he said.

DEP spokesman Larry Hajna said his department is still collecting information and will send comments to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The new facility would need both state and federal permits, if the application gets local approval.

"Industrial waste incinerators need very sophisticated air pollution control and we are definitely interested in what is being proposed," Hajna said.

Allen Toadvine of Langhorne, Pa., the attorney who represents the incinerator applicant, could not be reached for comment Friday.

Saponaro said Burlington City hopes to negotiate with other local governments to split legal expenses for the Florio firm.

Nicholas Caruso is president of the Board of Island Managers that oversees a pristine, 400-acre island with a lake in the middle of the Delaware River. He says he believes emissions will adversely affect the flight patterns of birds as well as the eagle habitat and foraging grounds on the island.

"It could be the final nail in the coffin for any limited development on Burlington Island."

Reach Carol Comegno at (856) 486-2473 or ccomegno@gannett.com

If you go

What: The Bristol, Pa., zoning board hearing

Where: Bristol Township Municipal Building, 2501 Bath Road

When: 7 p.m. Monday

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/bristol-incinerator-plan-decried-by-burlington-county/article_64de274f-58b3-5e2d-9875-89b3b967ea7a.html

Bristol incinerator plan decried by Burlington County

Posted: Sunday, January 12, 2014 7:45 pm | Updated: 8:52 pm, Wed Jan 29, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

BURLINGTON CITY, N.J. - The company that wants to operate an industrial waste burner in Bristol Township, is about to meet stiff opposition from an ironclad group of protesters just across the Delaware River.

The city, leading the charge in the fight against a plan by Route 13 Bridge Partners of King of Prussia, has garnered support from state and Burlington County officials, surrounding towns, and even the law firm of former New Jersey Gov. James Florio, a Democrat known as an environmental crusader during his 25-year career in politics.

Florio, of Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader, with a local office in Cherry Hill, joined several politicians Friday at the Hope Steam Fire Engine Co. on High Street for a news conference held by the city to formally protest the plan. The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board on Monday will hear the application, which was continued from December.

"When you incinerate something, not all of it goes away," said Florio, detailing the state's extensive incinerator regulations, many of which he authored himself, and musing about whether Bristol Township officials had the expertise to decide on the matter.

"We're going to go to the meeting and bring out all of these things and a lot more. I'm really hoping the (zoning) board on Monday understands the fragility of this system," said Florio, who has been retained as Burlington City's special counsel for the matter. "We're hopeful that common sense applies."

Route 13 Bridge Partners wants to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near Street Road, according to the application.

The business center is adjacent to international specialty chemical companies Rohm & Haas (which was purchased by Dow Chemical Co. in 2009), Rhodia Inc. and Arkema Inc., according to www.bridgebusinesscenter.com. Gamesa Energy and Dow Chemical are listed on the website as "corporate neighbors."

The company is requesting variances to operate an incinerator, which is not among the permitted uses listed in Bristol Township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

The applicant's attorney, Allen Toadvine of Langhorne, Pa., did not immediately respond for comment. Bristol Township Councilman Craig Bowen has said that the company operates a wastewater treatment plant and that the incinerator most likely would be used for pharmaceutical materials.

Route 13 Bridge Partners is a limited partnership, a "shell company" likely conducting a business for another company, said Florio, who finished three terms in the state Assembly before serving in

Congress and as governor.

Florio, author of the state's Superfund legislation, said he served on the House subcommittee on environmental matters and warned that if the application was accepted, the company could be authorized to store the waste materials on the site until it gets a permit, which could "take years."

Deborah Fries, a spokeswoman for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Southeast region, did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Friday. Fries said in December that the company met with DEP officials in October, but had not made any formal submissions for permits.

Officials at the news conference outlined a dire scenario.

Assemblyman Herb Conaway, D-7th of Delanco, recalled the aftermath when lightning struck Dow Chemical tanks in May 2012.

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"With prevailing winds from the west, it is the residents of Burlington County who will be most affected by the proposed industrial incinerator, raising concerns about the negative impacts of their quality of life and health of our environment," Arter said.

Part of that includes Burlington Island, the 400-acre respite slated for development to fund an educational trust for the city's children. Nicholas Caruso, president of the local Board of Island Managers, noted that a bald eagle had taken refuge on the island and fledged an eaglet with a mate.

"This project would adversely affect the flight pattern of tens of thousands of migratory waterfowl," Caruso said.

The plan has also drawn opposition from Beverly, Bordentown Township, Burlington Township, Delran, Edgewater Park, Florence and Riverside.

http://www.theintell.com/news/local/bristol-incinerator-plan-decried-by-burlington-county/article_47b59f4c-bdfb-5072-9701-aaa9735e3781.html

Bristol incinerator plan decried by Burlington County

Posted: Sunday, January 12, 2014 7:45 pm | Updated: 8:52 pm, Wed Jan 29, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

BURLINGTON CITY - The company that wants to operate an industrial waste burner in Bristol Township is about to meet stiff opposition from an ironclad group of protesters across the Delaware River.

The city, leading the charge in the fight against a plan by Route 13 Bridge Partners of King of Prussia has garnered support from state and Burlington County officials, surrounding towns, and even the law firm of former Gov. James Florio, a Democrat known as an environmental crusader during his 25-year career in politics.

Florio, of Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader joined several politicians Friday at the Hope Steam Fire Engine Co. on High Street for a news conference held by the city to formally protest the plan. The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board on Monday will hear the application, which was continued from December.

"When you incinerate something, not all of it goes away," said Florio, detailing the state's extensive incinerator regulations, many of which he authored himself, and musing about whether Bristol Township officials had the expertise to decide on the matter.

"We're going to go to the meeting and bring out all of these things and a lot more. I'm really hoping the (zoning) board on Monday understands the fragility of this system," said Florio, who has been retained as Burlington City's special counsel for the matter. "We're hopeful that common sense applies."

Route 13 Bridge Partners wants to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near Street Road, according to the application.

The business center is adjacent to international specialty chemical companies Rohm & Haas (which was purchased by Dow Chemical Co. in 2009), Rhodia Inc. and Arkema Inc., according to www.bridgebusinesscenter.com. Gamesa Energy and Dow Chemical are listed on the website as "corporate neighbors."

The company is requesting variances to operate an incinerator, which is not among the permitted uses listed in Bristol Township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

The applicant's attorney, Allen Toadvine of Langhorne, Pa., did not immediately respond for comment. Bristol Township Councilman Craig Bowen has said that the company operates a wastewater treatment plant and that the incinerator most likely would be used for pharmaceutical materials.

Route 13 Bridge Partners is a limited partnership, a "shell company" likely conducting a business for another company, said Florio, who finished three terms in the state Assembly before serving in

Congress and as governor.

Florio, author of the state's Superfund legislation, said he served on the House subcommittee on environmental matters and warned that if the application was accepted, the company could be authorized to store the waste materials on the site until it gets a permit, which could "take years."

Deborah Fries, a spokeswoman for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Southeast region, did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Friday. Fries said in December that the company met with DEP officials in October, but had not made any formal submissions for permits.

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/bristol-incinerator-plan-decried-by-burlington-county/article_36382488-c0ca-5f4d-848c-6a580ebd4625.html

Bristol incinerator plan decried by Burlington County

8 Comments

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By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

BURLINGTON CITY, N.J. - The company that wants to operate an industrial waste burner in Bristol Township, is about to meet stiff opposition from an ironclad group of protesters just across the Delaware River.

The city, leading the charge in the fight against a plan by Route 13 Bridge Partners of King of Prussia, has garnered support from state and Burlington County officials, surrounding towns, and even the law firm of former New Jersey Gov. James Florio, a Democrat known as an environmental crusader during his 25-year career in politics.

Florio, of Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader, with a local office in Cherry Hill, joined several politicians Friday at the Hope Steam Fire Engine Co. on High Street for a news conference held by the city to formally protest the plan. The Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board on Monday will hear the application, which was continued from December.

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/imported_photos/burner-hearing/image_68e512a8-c3b1-5ebe-8f3d-1c9cdd5c7e68.html

Bill Fraser / Staff Photographer | Posted: Monday, January 13, 2014 10:12 pm

Photo

Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board Chairman Chuck Clayton (right) and other members consider a controversial application by a company that wants to operate an incinerator in a business park near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge during a standing-room only meeting Monday night.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/imported_photos/burner-hearing/image_894d2b94-1f18-52a3-9c70-b63834109194.html

Bill Fraser / Staff Photographer | Posted: Monday, January 13, 2014 9:59 pm

Photo

This is an artist's rendering of the incinerator facility proposed for Bristol Township.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/imported_photos/burner-hearing/image_29dd2e68-475b-5e58-a1a9-7792c8ea21ce.html

Bill Fraser / Staff Photographer | Posted: Monday, January 13, 2014 9:51 pm

A standing-room only crowd attends the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board's meeting, where officials consider a controversial application by a company that wants to operate an incinerator in a business park near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge, Monday night. Politicians and residents in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey are protesting it.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/no-action-taken-on-bristol-township-incinerator/article_f6a6beb5-bfa3-5168-b926-4bebcc0db9f0.html

No action taken on Bristol Township incinerator

5 Comments

Posted: Monday, January 13, 2014 11:38 am | Updated: 8:52 pm, Wed Jan 29, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

The plan for an industrial materials burner in a Bristol Township business park was bolstered by experts and decried by a packed crowd at the township's zoning hearing board meeting Monday night.

Board members adjourned until next month a proposal by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia for an incinerator in the Bridge Business Center on George Patterson Boulevard, near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

The meeting drew residents from both sides of the Delaware River.

Representatives for the applicant said the roughly 53,000-square-foot plant would consist of offices and two kilns that would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

"These are all organic materials, hydrocarbon (and water) based," said Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, who testified about the chemical portion of the plan. No medical waste, radioactive materials or explosives would be accepted, he said.

Nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process, Logan said, but at lower levels than several of the area's big businesses.

"Don't you care about the smell?" shouted one woman in the crowd, which spilled out into the hallway and was already testy due to the malfunctioning closed circuit television.

Odor levels would be "relatively small," said Logan.

Tensions also boiled when attorney Louis Capelli Jr., special counsel for Burlington City, N.J., wanted the hearing continued because the same engineer was representing both the applicant and Burlington City. Zoning board Chairman Chuck Clayton raised his voice, then argued with a police officer about having Capelli, of Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader of Cherry Hill, N.J., removed.

"We always let the applicant speak first," Chuck Clayton shouted.

Representatives also touted 80 new construction jobs and what they calculated to be \$5 million in tax revenue for the town.

The plan is subject to approval from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as well as the Pennsylvania and federal environmental protection departments, and must meet rigorous air quality standards. The permitting process could take nine months to two years, Logan said.

Company officials said the plant would not impact the water system nor wildlife, and listed as safeguards round-the-clock staffers, an automatic shut-off mechanism, extensive record keeping and ongoing reporting.

When township officials recalled how lightning struck two Dow Chemical tanks nearby in May 2012, releasing noxious fumes that drifted over to Burlington County, one of the applicant's representatives said a similar incident "wasn't likely." In such a scenario, lightning would hit the incinerator's smoke stacks, which weren't near the product, said state Rep. Frank Farry, R-142, who serves on the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee, where he chairs the subcommittee on Security and Emergency Response Readiness.

"The biggest perceived threat would be the materials coming in, but there are a lot of checks and balances," said Farry.

The business center is adjacent to international specialty chemical companies Rohm & Haas (which was purchased by Dow Chemical Co. in 2009), Rhodia Inc. and Arkema Inc., according to www.bridgebusinesscenter.com. Gamesa Energy and Dow Chemical are listed on the website as "corporate neighbors."

The company is requesting variances to operate an incinerator, which is not among the permitted uses listed in Bristol Township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

Burlington City officials had hosted a news conference Friday to formally protest the plan. The city's special counsel, Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader, is the law firm of former N.J. Gov. James Florio, who was known as an environmental crusader during his 25-year career in politics.

Several riverfront towns in New Jersey and the Burlington County Board of Freeholders joined the fight by formally opposing the plan by resolution. The county also established a task force to examine the matter.

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2014/01/bristol_pa_waste_burner_would_pollute_mercer_burlingt_on_counties_officials_say.html

Bristol, Pa., waste burner would pollute Mercer, Burlington counties, officials say

Route 13 Bridge Partners of King of Prussia, Pa., is seeking approval tonight from Bristol Township officials to build a 50,392-square-foot industrial waste burner on the now-defunct Rohm & Haas chemical manufacturing plant on Route 13, officials said. The plan also calls for a 3,749-square-foot office on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center. (Google maps)

Nicole Mulvaney/The Times of Trenton

on January 13, 2014 at 8:21 AM, updated January 13, 2014 at 1:12 PM

Toxic chemical particles could begin swirling around areas of Mercer and Burlington counties if a hazardous waste incinerator estimated to burn 25,000 pounds of waste per day -- comes to Bristol, Pa., opponents of the project say.

Route 13 Bridge Partners of King of Prussia, Pa., is seeking approval tonight from Bristol Township officials to build a 50,392-square-foot industrial waste burner on the now-defunct Rohm & Haas chemical manufacturing plant on Route 13, officials said. The plan also calls for a 3,749-square-foot office on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center.

But environmentalists and area officials, concerned about its possible far-reaching health impacts, said they are doing all they can to prevent the project from coming to fruition.

"This is one of the most ludicrous proposals you could have along the riverfront. When you burn hazardous waste, you don't get rid of it; it's changing forms," said Jeff Tittel, director of the New Jersey chapter of the Sierra Club, a nonprofit that promotes environmental conservation. "People in New Jersey need to fight this."

Westerly winds would "definitely" bring toxic ash and dangerous air particles to areas in Trenton, Hamilton and Bordentown, as well as other, surrounding towns, Tittel said. He noted that any leaks on site could also jeopardize the river, and tides could push chemicals right into Trenton's water supply intake, he said.

"This region has some of the worst air quality in the nation. It's among the top 20 worst areas in the nation in that regard," Tittel said. "Who wants a giant smokestack belching this kind of stuff?"

The site could also chase away residential and commercial development along the river where houses, restaurants and parks should be breathing life into the area instead, he said.

Allen Toadvine of Langhorne, Pa., Route 13 Bridge Partners' attorney, did not return phone messages left for him yesterday.

The Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders passed a resolution on Dec. 11 urging the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board to reject the company's application at its meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at the municipal building on Bath Road, officials said. Deputy Director Leah Arter also established a task force to assess the possible damage this could pose to residents.

"This might be nice for Bristol, but not for us. I don't see how it wouldn't affect Trenton and others areas in Mercer County, too," Burlington County Freeholder Joanne Schwartz said yesterday. "The concern is that it'll blow across to us, and you don't want to be inhaling that."

Burlington County Freeholder Aimee Belgard said the "scary" incinerator would "accept everything short of explosives."

"We're not talking about your regular, run-of-the-mill, home residential waste," she said. "This is directly going to affect our children, families and seniors who want to be able to enjoy walks along the river."

The project has also drawn opposition from the law firm of former Gov. James Florio, who authored the national Superfund toxic-waste cleanup legislation while a U.S. congressman, Schwartz said. Florio was hired to represent Burlington City in its fight to protest the plan, she said.

He joined local officials at the Hope Steam Fire Engine Co. in Burlington City for a news conference Saturday to formally denounce it, she said.

Bordentown Mayor Stephen Benowitz was among those in attendance. He said that, immediately after the news conference, he told Township Clerk Colleen Eckert to add a resolution to the agenda for tonight's township committee meeting, calling for Bordentown to join other communities in encouraging Bristol officials to reject the application.

"If westerly winds prevail, we'll get the impacts of this, also," he said. "We'll make sure the resolution goes through and that this doesn't come to fruition. It's a no-brainer."

Route 13 Bridge Partners is requesting variances to allow the company to operate the incinerator on a site where existing zoning does not allow it, and to exceed certain drainage rules regarding paved surfaces, Schwartz said.

It is also challenging the validity of the existing zoning ordinance for the site, according to the meeting agenda.

Contact Nicole Mulvaney at nmulvaney@njtimes.com.

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January 14, 2014

Section: News

CORRECTION

Route 13 Bristol Partners LP has proposed building a hazardous waste incinerator in Bristol Township, Pa. The company's name was incorrect yesterday.

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2014/01/unruly_audience_opposes_bristol_pa_incinerator_over_concerns_of_pollution_in_new_jersey.html

Unruly audience opposes Bristol, Pa., incinerator over concerns of pollution in New Jersey
Bridget Clerkin/The Times of Trenton By Bridget Clerkin/The Times of Trenton
on January 14, 2014 at 6:50 AM, updated January 14, 2014 at 1:48 PM

Route 13 Bristol Partners is proposing a 50,392-square-foot industrial waste burner on the now-defunct Rohm & Haas chemical manufacturing plant on Route 13 in Bristol Township, Pa.

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP, Pa. - A contested plan to build a hazardous waste incinerator on a location near the Delaware River in the township received a rocky welcome last night, in a meeting that included several interruptions from residents and attorneys and threats to have out-of-turn speakers escorted from the gathering by a police officer.

At a packed Bristol Township zoning board meeting, Route 13 Bristol Partners made its opening arguments in an open application process to build the two story, 50,392-square-foot facility.

At issue is the concern that the chemicals being burned in the incinerator will not only pollute Bristol but also make their way to Burlington and farther north to Trenton and other areas in Mercer County in the form of toxic ash or dangerous air particles if the wind is blowing eastward.

In presenting the case for the facility Bristol Partners attorney Allen Toadvine called several witnesses in an attempt to alleviate those fears, including environmental consultant Michael Logan, who told the board that the incinerator — which is capable of burning 60 tons of toxic material every day — would produce less emissions than nearby hospitals St. Mary's Medical Center and Lower Bucks County Hospital as well as the bakery facility Northeast Foods.

A large part of those emissions would come from the natural gases used to burn the hazardous materials — that would be incinerated using two kilns reaching between 1,600 and 2,400 degrees Fahrenheit, Logan said.

He said the facility would burn off chemicals “routinely found around your homes presently” including rubbing alcohol, nail polish remover, paint thinners, aerosols, pesticides and herbicides, adhesive materials, water-based inks and antifreeze.

“This is all organic, carbon-based material, “ Logan said. “They’re not regulated while they’re at your homes, but if they’re generated at commercial industrial facilities they become regulated, and that’s how they come to our facilities.”

Answering a question yelled out from the audience about smells, Logan said because of the temperature of the burner and the types of chemicals being incinerated, the facility would not create an odor in the area, a statement that drew sneers and chatter from the audience.

A site-specific risk evaluation examining potential pathways for human or environmental exposure to the chemicals and how the emissions of the facility may impact the food soil and water supply would occur later on in the application process, Logan said.

He said the facility would undergo regular inspections by both the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Waste from the facility would be transported to a special landfill in upstate New York. Bristol Partners CEO Timothy Barrett discussed the economic side of the project, saying that the facility would bring in around \$5 million in local tax revenue annually and create 100 jobs once the incinerator was fully operational.

He also said the construction process would create 80 jobs and mentioned that the company would look to hire union and local workers.

In attempts to delay the meeting, representatives of the law firm Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Sader, which is representing Burlington City in opposition of the project, were rebuked several times by board chair Chuck Clayton and sparked a heated exchange where Clayton asked if one lawyer needed to be “escorted out of the room by a police officer,” with members of the audience replying, “Let the man be heard.”

The attorneys alleged that the planning firm Pennoni Associates, where Joe Luste, an expert witness called by the applicant, is employed, was also hired by Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Sader for advice on the issue, creating a conflict of interest.

Luste later denied any knowledge of association between the two firms.

If the zoning board were to approve the change to facilitate the incinerator, the applicant would still need approval from the township planning board and council, and the U.S. DEP would have final say over the project.

The meeting was ongoing at press time, with several attorneys raising counterpoints to Bristol Partners’ arguments.

<http://www.denewsfeed.com/clayton/engineer-represents-opposing-sides-in-bristol-incinerator-plan/>

Posted: Tuesday, Jan 14, 2014 4:15 pm

Updated: 5:30 pm, Tue Jan 14, 2014.

Engineer represents hostile sides in Bristol incinerator plan

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN
Staff writer

Bucks County Courier Times

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP, Pa. — The opponents in a devise to work an industrial rubbish incinerator nearby a Burlington-Bristol Bridge have enlisted a same engineering organisation to yield testimony for opposing sides, a conditions that came to light during a sharp-witted Zoning Hearing Board assembly Monday night and lifted questions about ethics.

Pennoni Associates of Philadelphia has been hired by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP, a King of Prussia-based applicant behind a incinerator plan, as good as Burlington City, one of a New Jersey riverfront towns that is protesting a proposal.

The 53,000-square-foot plant would occupy dual parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in a Bridge Business Center, and include of offices and dual kilns that would bake 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

The engineering organisation conditions was brought to light by a lead counsel representing Burlington City in a matter, Louis Capelli Jr. of Florio Perrucci Steinhardt Fader LLC in Cherry Hill, who unsuccessfully attempted to have a conference continued until a matter was resolved.

“I’m certain it was not intentional, though Pennoni Associates sat in on during slightest dual or 3 of a meetings when we had trusted discussions about how we were going to conflict this application,” Capelli pronounced during a extensive meeting, attended by hundreds of residents from both sides of a Delaware River.

“It is positively crude for Pennoni Associates to yield any testimony or justification in this conference tonight,” he said, only as a Pennoni associate was about to attest on interest of a applicant.

The house authorised a testimony and finished adult stability a focus until subsequent month.

Capelli’s dual attempts to miscarry a assembly and have a focus continued were rebuffed by house Chairman Chuck Clayton, who threatened to have him removed.

Capelli pronounced Tuesday that Burlington City is looking for a organisation to reinstate Pennoni.

Clayton seemed to have questioned a plan, observant progressing in a assembly that he had “lost sleep” researching it, though nonetheless shielded Route 13 Bridge Partners’ right to testify.

“We always let a applicant pronounce first!” he shouted.

Pennoni Associates is a consulting engineering organisation with 28 offices in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Virginia, according to a website.

Pennoni and a applicant’s profession – Allen Toadvine of Langhorne, Pa. – did not immediately lapse messages Tuesday.

A deputy for a National Society of Professional Engineers, that has a house of reliable review, also did not lapse a summary seeking comment.

Jeannie O’Sullivan: 609-871-8068; email: josullivan@calkins.com; Twitter: [@jeannieosulliva](https://twitter.com/jeannieosulliva)

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/engineer-represents-opposing-sides-in-bristol-incinerator-plan/article_a8d2c442-a03d-507b-9b81-a75b0f8ba62f.html

Engineer represents opposing sides in Bristol incinerator plan

1 Comments

Posted: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 4:15 pm | Updated: 5:31 pm, Wed Jan 15, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP, Pa. — The opponents in a plan to operate an industrial waste incinerator near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge have enlisted the same engineering firm to provide testimony for conflicting sides, a situation that came to light at a lively Zoning Hearing Board meeting Monday night and raised questions about ethics.

Pennoni Associates of Philadelphia has been hired by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP, the King of Prussia-based applicant behind the incinerator plan, as well as Burlington City, one of the New Jersey riverfront towns that is protesting the proposal.

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<http://levittown.patch.com/groups/politics-and-elections/p/incinerator-decision-tabled-for-next-month>
News|Government

Incinerator Decision Tabled for Next Month

Opponents from Bristol, Bensalem and Burlington County, N.J., packed a standing room only meeting room in Bristol Township Monday night.

Posted by James Boyle (Editor) , January 14, 2014 at 11:18 AM

Following three-and-a-half hours of hearing testimony from representatives of a company seeking to install an industrial waste incinerator at the Bridge Business Center and members of the community against the plan, the Bristol Township Zoning Board pressed pause on the proceedings and tabled the matter for next month's meeting.

"I think (the board) was ambushed tonight," said Don Mobley, a Croydon resident who was the first to speak against the incinerator plan Monday night. "I don't think they were given a clear picture of the true nature of the plan until tonight, and I hope they spend the next month getting fully educated."

Representatives from Route 13 Bristol Partners are seeking variances that will allow them to construct a hazardous waste incinerating facility with two smoke stacks below the 80-foot limit at the industrial park that also houses a former Rohm & Haas plant now managed by Dow Chemical. The King of Prussia-based company also wants permission to create an adjacent staging area/parking lot that will increase the site's impervious surface ratio to 72 percent, one percent over the allowable limit.

Consultants hired by Route 13 Bristol Partners to manage the construction, planning, training and safety protocols gave testimony on what types of materials will be disposed, which regulatory bodies will have oversight on the operations and the safety procedures in place for spillage or other accidents.

According to Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, no explosives, radioactive or medical waste will be burned by the two natural gas-fueled kilns generating heat between 1,600 and 2,400 degrees Fahrenheit. Logan told the board that at maximum capacity, the plant will process approximately 60 tons of chemicals including alcohols and solvents, medicines and pharmaceuticals, aerosols, pesticides/herbicides and adhesives.

The staging lot will accept up to 12 tractor trailer loads per day, filled with either burnable drums or steel barrels that will be cleaned and recycled. The trucks will be weighed and the contents inspected and verified, then brought over to the incinerator facility. The facility is split into three sections, the 12,000 square-foot processing room, a 14,000 square-foot staging area where the barrels will be housed and randomly tested, and a two-floor administrative office.

According to the testimony, after the barrels are approved for incineration, they are placed inside the thermal processing kilns. The reduced solid residue will be collected, quenched and transported to a hazardous waste landfill in upstate New York. Residue gases will flow through filter flues designed to scrub the emissions and clean them per state and federal environmental protection standards. Logan told the board that the smoke stacks will emit per year five tons of nitrous oxide, .3 tons of particulate matter and .3 tons of carbon monoxide created by fuel burning.

However, one topic that the packed meeting room opposed to the incinerator felt was glossed over concerned the residues created by combusting the actual chemicals. The representatives from Route 13 Bristol Partners could not definitively say what additional byproducts would be produced from the

process, in large part because the actual equipment is still in the design phase.

Mike Ewall, a Bensalem native and founder of the Energy Justice Network in Washington, D.C, gave a powerpoint presentation about incinerators that claimed a host of dioxins and heavy metals such as mercury are common in emissions. He said that state regulatory agencies only test for these chemicals once a year during a six-hour period, giving the plant advanced notice that allows operators to prepare for the test.

"That's like having a speed trap set up once a year with signs warning drivers to slow down," said Ewall.

Speakers representing Bristol residents, Bensalem Township and officials in Burlington County, N.J., said there were too many unanswered questions surrounding the project, including security at the staging area, environmental protections and monitoring of the emission contents. Bristol and New Jersey residents also wanted time to make public comments after the professionals cross-examined the consultants, prompting Clayton to make a motion to table the proceedings to the Feb. 10 hearing.

"We will be back here next month," said Joseph Howarth, a member of the Board of Chosen Freeholders for Burlington County. "I feel very positive that it has been postponed. There is not enough information about something that will impact 55,000 residents in Bristol and 450,000 people in Burlington. I think the zoning board has been kept in the dark."

The Burlington County Freeholders passed a resolution last December calling on the zoning board to reject the application, and a group of representatives led by former New Jersey Governor James Florio attended Monday's meeting to add some muscle to the resolution.

After giving testimony as a consultant on safety protocols and procedures, Pa. State Representative Frank Farry expressed sympathy for the incinerator opponents but stated that the project is adhering to regulatory standards.

"From a public safety standpoint, I am comfortable with where they are," said Farry. "There has been a lot of speculation and judgment passed before the process has moved forward. This is something that would be developed on the same site of a chemical plant, they are not putting it next to a daycare."

Ewall expressed confidence that even if the variances are eventually approved, the project would be stopped.

"There is no such thing as a done deal," said Ewall. "These facilities very rarely get approved because nobody wants them. The biggest factor to stopping them is public involvement at the local levels, not from the permitting process at the state levels."

Comments

john alamia January 15, 2014 at 10:03 AM

state rep frank farry can keep his sympathy and do his job by representing his constituents. we do not want any incinerators here in Bristol.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/columnists/jd-mullane/ban-the-burner/article_804e1df0-42f4-563b-bfd0-279146149226.html

Ban the burner

1 Comments

Posted: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 1:30 am | Updated: 1:44 am, Tue Jan 14, 2014.

By J.D. Mullane

Bristol Township is considering a zoning change so a company called Route 13 Bridge Partners can build an industrial waste incinerator near the Delaware River.

The plans call for a 50,392-square-foot burner and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

Whatever plume of pollutants the plant produces would certainly blow across the Delaware and settle on Burlington City, N.J., and other small river towns.

As you might imagine, this does not sit well with Burlington City. It objects to a zoning change that would permit the incinerator.

Monday night, Burlington City Mayor Jim Fazzone went to a Bristol Township zoning board meeting to urge that the plant not be built. Final approval rests with the township's five-member council.

Bristol Township should nix the incinerator, mostly because it is just not neighborly. It is bad enough that Falls and Tullytown have enhanced the landscape of Lower Bucks County with twin landfills (the highest man-made structures in Bucks County), which send stink over the lower county and across to Jersey.

Also, anyone who lives in Lower Bucks knows that the Rohm & Haas Co. plant still sends forth its legendary rotten egg odor. Burlington County Times scribe Jeannie O'Sullivan quoted New Jersey Assemblyman Herb Conaway of Delanco recalling a lightning strike on the chemical plant's tanks in 2012.

"The winds blew, blew those chemicals into Burlington County, and people went to the hospital with skin irritations, eye irritations and respiratory difficulties. I would urge the leaders from Bristol to learn from that experience," Conaway said.

So Bristol Township wants to make things worse with an industrial waste incinerator?

I know that, given the reality of the Hope and Change economy, Bristol Township will say it needs tax revenues from new businesses. Of course this is true. But there must be other businesses that don't have smokestacks that would want to locate in the township.

Why tick off a neighbor so the local tax collector can grab a few more bucks?

There is another risk that may not be obvious to the casual observer. That is, Burlington City and Bristol Township are not run by people who are weak-kneed. I have worked in both places, so I know.

A few years ago a woman from Burlington City came up to me at a public event and told me off

because she does not like my point of view. Then she added: "Aren't you the wimp who's afraid of geese?"

She was referring to a piece I had written about flocks of Canada geese that had taken over Laurel Acres Park in Mount Laurel, and several that chased me to my car. (In Jersey, even the geese are tough.)

The woman then sneered for everyone to hear, "He's from Bucks County" - as if Bucks is some lala land.

It is not lala, especially in Bristol Township, which was my beat as a young reporter.

Its politicians do not like having their secrets exposed in the newspaper, and will send unmistakable messages of disapproval. While covering meetings, I had nails driven into my tires. Twice.

Which is to say that a Burlington and Bristol Township disagreement could turn into a cross-river fight. If Bristol Township OKs the incinerator, it is unlikely that Burlington will wring its hands and say, "Gosh." Oh, no. Burlington might make a few phone calls and get the Delaware River Bridge Commission to close a lane on the Burlington-Bristol Bridge for, ahem, a "traffic study." See how Bristol Township likes them apples.

But Bristol Township would not shrug this off. It might round up its drifters, vagrants and squatters and bus them over the bridge to Burlington, dropping them off in front of the city's welcome center. Nice touch.

Burlington might snag some of those surly Canada geese from Laurel Acres Park and drop them on the municipal building lawn.

I don't know where it would end, perhaps when Burlington turns Burlington Island into Hip-Hop Land Casino, blasting all the hits 24-7 across the water.

So let's avoid all of this, and ditch the incinerator.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/no-action-taken-on-bristol-incinerator/article_5e0d3dae-7b7d-5abf-a2f7-2cab5b8a9efc.html

No action taken on Bristol incinerator

Posted: Monday, January 13, 2014 11:38 am | Updated: 3:23 pm, Tue Jan 14, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP, Pa. - The plan for an industrial materials burner in a Bucks County, Pa., business park was bolstered by experts and decried by a packed crowd at the township's Zoning Hearing Board on Monday night.

Board members adjourned until next month a proposal by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Pa., for an incinerator in the Bridge Business Center on George Patterson Boulevard, near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

The meeting drew residents from both sides of the Delaware River.

Representatives for the applicant said the roughly 53,000-square-foot plant would consist of offices and two kilns that would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

"These are all organic materials, hydrocarbon (and water) based," said Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, who testified about the chemical portion of the plan. No medical waste, radioactive materials or explosives would be accepted, he said.

Nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process, Logan said, but at lower levels than several of the area's big businesses.

"Don't you care about the smell?" shouted one woman in the crowd, which spilled out into the hallway and was already testy due to the malfunctioning closed circuit television.

Odor levels would be "relatively small," said Logan.

Tensions also boiled when attorney Louis Capelli Jr., special counsel for Burlington City, wanted the hearing continued because the same engineer was representing both the applicant and Burlington City. Zoning Hearing Board Chairman Chuck Clayton raised his voice, then argued with a police officer about having Capelli, of Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader in Cherry Hill, removed.

"We always let the applicant speak first," Chuck Clayton shouted.

Representatives also touted 80 new construction jobs and what they calculated to be \$5 million in tax revenue for the town.

The plan is subject to approval from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as well as the Pennsylvania and federal environmental protection departments, and must meet rigorous air quality standards. The permitting process could take nine months to two years, Logan said.

Company officials said the plant would not impact the water system nor wildlife, and listed as safeguards round-the-clock staffers, an automatic shut-off mechanism, extensive record keeping and

ongoing reporting.

When township officials recalled how lightning struck two Dow Chemical tanks nearby in May 2012, releasing noxious fumes that drifted over to Burlington County, one of the applicant's representatives said a similar incident "wasn't likely." In such a scenario, lightning would hit the incinerator's smoke stacks, which weren't near the product, said state Rep. Frank Farry, R-142, of Langhorne, Pa., who serves on the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee, where he chairs the subcommittee on Security and Emergency Response Readiness.

"The biggest perceived threat would be the materials coming in, but there are a lot of checks and balances," said Farry.

The business center is adjacent to international specialty chemical companies Rohm & Haas (which was purchased by Dow Chemical Co. in 2009), Rhodia Inc. and Arkema Inc., according to www.bridgebusinesscenter.com. Gamesa Energy and Dow Chemical are listed on the website as "corporate neighbors."

The company is requesting variances to operate an incinerator, which is not among the permitted uses listed in Bristol Township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

Burlington City officials had hosted a news conference Friday to formally protest the plan. The city's special counsel, Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader, is the law firm of former Gov. James Florio, who was known as an environmental crusader during his 25-year career in politics.

Several riverfront towns in New Jersey and the Burlington County Board of Freeholders joined the fight by formally opposing the plan by resolution. The county also established a task force to examine the matter.

<http://levittownnow.com/2014/01/14/incinerator-tabled-zoning-board/>

By Jeff Bohem January 14, 2014 0 Comments

Bristol Twp. Zoning Board Tables Incinerator Application

It was standing room only at the Bristol Township Zoning Board on Monday night. Credit: Jeff Bohem-LevittownNow.com

It was standing room only at the Bristol Township Zoning Board on Monday night.

Credit: Jeff Bohem-LevittownNow.com

They came from across the river, Washington DC, Bensalem , Burlington, N.J. and all points in between. The crowd gathered at the Bristol Township building on Bath Road for Monday's standing room only marathon-like Zoning Board meeting.

Ultimately, the concerns of citizens and a need for more information led to the board deciding to table a decision until the next month's meeting, said Zoning Board Chairman Chuck Clayton.

The hearing lasting close to five hours had its moments of drama, as supporters from both sides of the issue listened intently to the testimony, took notes, snapped pictures, and asked questions aloud often challenging the testimony being given by witnesses for Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Montgomery County.

Witnesses for the applicant are sworn in before testifying Monday night. Credit: Jeff Bohem

Witnesses for the applicant are sworn in before testifying Monday night.

Credit: Jeff Bohem

Officials and representatives for the applicant said the roughly 53,000-square-foot plant would be comprised of offices and two incinerators that would burn 60 tons of garbage daily. The refuse would be alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

"These are all organic materials, hydrocarbon (and water) based," said Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, who testified about the chemical portion of the plan. "No medical waste, radioactive materials or explosives would be" incinerated, he said.

Logan said nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process but at lower levels in comparison to other businesses in the area.

Logan, addressed by a woman in the audience, was asked: "Don't you care about the smell?" Logan said odor levels would be "relatively small."

Officials from both sides of the river sat in attendance testimony was given, conferring with each other and sharing information as as they viewed the power point presentation given by the applicant.

Drama ensued when when attorney Louis Capelli Jr., special counsel for Burlington City, requested the hearing be stopped due to a "conflict of interest." Capelli said the same engineer was representing both the applicant and Burlington City, increasing the tension in the room that existed long before the meeting even started.

"That we always let the applicant speak first," Clayton bellowed at the Burlington special counsel.

Member of the opublic listens intently while testimony is being given Credit: Jeff

Bohen/LevittownNow.com

Member of the public listens intently while testimony is being given

Credit: Jeff Bohan/LevittownNow.com

Company officials said the environment and wildlife would be safe saying a number of steps are planned in order to safe guard the area such as 24/7 staff, an automatic shut-down mechanism, intensive record keeping and ongoing reporting to local, state, and federal officials.

The company is requesting variances to operate two kilns, which are not permitted, according to Bristol Township's zoning ordinance. The company is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, stating in the application it "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

Don Mobley who hired Founder and Director of the Energy Justice Network Mike Ewall to testify at the hearing testified during the meeting. He said, "we don't need this type of business here. We just put in an entire waterfront from Bristol Borough to Bensalem and Philadelphia, here. Why are we going backwards?" "Do we need more smoke stack industry here?"

Answering his own question, Mobley said "no, we don't. What we need to do is use our land resources better. The Roman Haas plant on River Road is already a super fund site. We create jobs and bring in money for the township without risking people or the environment."

Frank Farry, who is serving as a private paid consultant for the application process and is the Fire Chief of the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Company with years of experience related to public safety, said: "The biggest perceived threat would be the materials coming in, but there are a lot of checks and balances."

Public looks on at power point presentation during hearing Monday. Credit: Jeff Bohan

Public looks on at power point presentation during hearing Monday.

Credit: Jeff Bohan

Farry later said he was "confident" the company was going to do all it could to provide safeguards for the township and its residents offered that he would not be testifying on behalf of the applicant in front of governmental agencies' . 0

Farry later said the applicant doesn't stay in business by hurting the areas they do business in and with, they do so by doing all they can to protect them.

Clayton, as it approached 11 p.m., said it was the board's decision to table the application "because I want to gather more information from surrounding governmental officials and the public.

"It's the fair thing to do", he said.

He expects that the application will be on the agenda for the next zoning board meeting in February.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/engineer-represents-opposing-sides-in-bristol-incinerator-plan/article_d44310fe-97bb-5321-a78e-b71f68e11520.html

Engineer represents opposing sides in Bristol incinerator plan

Posted: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 4:15 pm | Updated: 5:33 pm, Wed Jan 15, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN Staff writer

Pennoni Associates of Philadelphia has been hired by both Bristol Township incinerator applicant and Burlington City, one of the New Jersey riverfront towns that is protesting the proposal.

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP, Pa. - The opponents in a plan to operate an industrial waste incinerator near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge have enlisted the same engineering firm to provide testimony for conflicting sides, a situation that came to light at a lively Zoning Hearing Board meeting Monday night and raised questions about ethics.

Pennoni Associates of Philadelphia has been hired by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP, the King of Prussia-based applicant behind the incinerator plan, as well as Burlington City, one of the New Jersey riverfront towns that is protesting the proposal.

The 53,000-square-foot plant would occupy two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, and consist of offices and two kilns that would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

The engineering firm situation was brought to light by the lead lawyer representing Burlington City in the matter, Louis Capelli Jr. of Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader LLC in Cherry Hill, who unsuccessfully tried to have the hearing continued until the matter was resolved.

"I'm sure it was not intentional, but Pennoni Associates sat in on at least two or three of our meetings when we had confidential discussions about how we were going to oppose this application," Capelli said during the lengthy meeting, attended by hundreds of residents from both sides of the Delaware River.

"It is absolutely improper for Pennoni Associates to provide any testimony or evidence in this hearing tonight," he said, just as a Pennoni associate was about to testify on behalf of the applicant.

The board allowed the testimony and ended up continuing the application until next month.

Capelli's two attempts to interrupt the meeting and have the application continued were rebuffed by board Chairman Chuck Clayton, who threatened to have him removed.

Capelli said Tuesday that Burlington City is looking for a firm to replace Pennoni.

Clayton seemed to have questioned the plan, saying earlier in the meeting that he had "lost sleep" researching it, but nonetheless defended Route 13 Bridge Partners' right to testify.

"We always let the applicant speak first!" he shouted.

Pennoni Associates is a consulting engineering firm with 28 offices in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Virginia, according

to its website.

Pennoni and the applicant's attorney- Allen Toadvine of Langhorne - did not immediately return messages Tuesday.

A representative for the National Society of Professional Engineers, which has a board of ethical review, also did not return a message seeking comment.

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2014/01/bristol_pa_incinerator_hearing_to_resume_next_month.html

Bristol, Pa. incinerator hearing to resume next month

Bridget Clerkin/The Times of Trenton

on January 14, 2014 at 11:34 PM, updated January 15, 2014 at 8:22 AM

The lengthy and sometimes contentious discussion over a plan to build a large hazardous waste incinerator near the Delaware River is set to resume Feb. 10, according to township officials.

The project was the subject of a nearly four-hourlong zoning board hearing Monday night during which applicant Route 13 Bristol Partners first outlined the project in hopes of securing a zoning change needed to build the industrial burner.

The site of the former Rohm & Haas chemical manufacturing plant on Route 13 has been targeted by Bristol Partners as the location for the 50,392-square-foot incinerator, which would be capable of burning 60 tons of toxic material every day, experts at the meeting testified.

Several attorneys representing different groups at the meeting also asked to cross-examine the witnesses called by Bristol Partners.

Environmental consultant Michael Logan said the facility would accept items such as nail polish removers, paint thinners, adhesive materials, anti-freeze, herbicides, pesticides and other toxic chemicals, with the remains shipped off to a special landfill in upstate New York.

A number of attorneys representing New Jersey municipalities raised concerns about hazardous material making its way across the river into Burlington County, Trenton and other areas of Mercer County.

If the zoning board approves of the changes, Bristol Partners would still need confirmation from the Bristol Township Planning Board and town council.

http://www.nj.com/times-opinion/index.ssf/2014/01/editorial_chemical_incinerator.html
Editorial: Chemical incinerator proposed just across the Delaware River from N.J. smells wrong

Route 13 Bristol Partners is proposing a 50,392-square-foot industrial waste burner on the now-defunct Rohm & Haas chemical manufacturing plant on Route 13 in Bristol Township, Pa. (Google Maps)

Times of Trenton Editorial Board
on January 15, 2014 at 5:28 AM, updated January 15, 2014 at 5:29 AM

If there were any doubts about popular opinion on plans for an industrial waste incinerator on the edge of the Delaware River, a hearing jam-packed with opponents erased uncertainty.

Members of the Bristol Township zoning board this week heard from Route 13 Bristol Partners LP representatives about the two-story 50,392-square-foot facility proposed for a business park near the foot of the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

They also heard from residents on both sides of the river who fear fumes and residue from incinerating the chemicals will jeopardize their health.

There is reason for those fears. For decades before the advent of tougher federal regulations, the Rohm & Haas chemical plant on the site spewed harmful emissions into the air.

In May 2012, lightning hit the plant, now owned by Dow, igniting a fire that burned chemicals used in manufacturing paint. Massive clouds of smelly smoke swept over the region, fueled by ethyl acrylate and butyl acrylate. Residents within a 30-mile radius, including many in the Mercer region, reported experiencing nausea and headaches.

Such a scenario is unlikely to occur at the proposed incinerator, assured an environmental consultant who testified on behalf of Route 13 Bristol Partners Monday night. Any odors, he said, would be negligible.

Yet, as Bridget Clerkin reported for The Times, a precise risk evaluation of potential pathways for human or environmental exposure to the chemicals -- and how the emissions of the facility may affect the soil and water supply -- won't happen until later in the application process.

Proponents of the plan tout the tax benefits and employment opportunity that would come along with construction of the facility.

New Jersey communities would not reap any tax benefit, merely the emissions from the daily combustion of up to 60 tons of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

Until there is better technology for disposal of these hazardous wastes, we recognize the unfortunate necessity of carting this material somewhere for processing. We do not, however, believe that this location so close to the drinking water supply and within the breathing space of such a densely populated area is appropriate.

We urge Bristol officials to turn down the proposal for the sake of its residents and the surrounding communities that would inherit the emissions from two huge and ceaseless smokestacks.

It's not an issue of "not in my back yard." It's a matter of not in our side yards, not in our front yards, not in our school yards.

http://www.nj.com/times-opinion/index.ssf/2014/01/times_of_trenton_letter_to_the_49.html
Times of Trenton Letter to the Editor - Jan. 16
They're burning up in Denmark

I visit Denmark frequently and, if anyone follows world news, they will know that it is generally understood that Denmark is one of the "greenest" countries in the world.

Denmark takes very seriously energy independence and green technologies such as wind power, heavy taxes on vehicles and the fuel to run them, as well as using other technologies to create energy (but not nuclear), including incineration of trash. There is even an incinerator near downtown Copenhagen, which most tourists are not even aware exists. And, oh yes, the citizens do not mind, as it reduces their costs and property values are up -- way up. And they do care very much about their children, which is why they do everything to be as green as possible.

This brings up some questions: Is it simply that here in the U.S. no one separates the facts from rhetoric? Do citizens just automatically say "No" ("Unruly audience opposes incinerator -- Many express fear of hazardous waste burner in Bristol, Pa." Jan. 14), and editorial, "Vote down incinerator plan," Jan. 15) without asking if it can be done correctly? Do we lack the technology to build an equally efficient waste burner? What can we learn from the Danes that can correct the perceived view that it cannot and should not be built, even in our best interests?

I do suggest that interested parties investigate before the U.S. gets further behind in "healthy" technologies that could create jobs and serve the greater good.

Deborah Duerr,
Ewing

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/columnists/jd-mullane/ban-the-burner/article_05ecc149-909f-5a1d-8cf0-5399709f495c.html

Ban the burner

Posted: Thursday, January 16, 2014 1:00 pm | Updated: 9:44 pm, Thu Jan 16, 2014.

By J.D. Mullane

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As you might imagine, this does not sit well with Burlington City. It objects to a zoning change that would permit the incinerator.

Last Monday night, Burlington City Mayor Jim Fazzino went to a Bristol Township zoning board meeting to urge that the plant not be built. Final approval rests with the township's five-member council.

Bristol Township should nix the incinerator, mostly because it is just not neighborly. It is bad enough that Falls and Tullytown have enhanced the landscape of Lower Bucks County with twin landfills (the highest man-made structures in Bucks County), which send stink over the lower county and across to Jersey.

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"The winds blew, blew those chemicals into Burlington County, and people went to the hospital with skin irritations, eye irritations and respiratory difficulties. I would urge the leaders from Bristol to learn from that experience," Conaway said.

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/vent/the-vent-for-jan/article_fe6f1c6f-3721-5a7b-8bf6-c744a41de950.html

Posted: Sunday, January 19, 2014 6:00 am

The Vent for Jan. 19

State Rep. Frank Farry is very qualified and protective of public safety. As a safety consultant he will diligently ensure the proposed industrial waste incinerator in Bristol Township operates within the dictates of the law. He could not be influenced to ignore safety issues by anything.

Jerry F. Coleman, Levittown

http://www.nj.com/times-opinion/index.ssf/2014/01/times_of_trenton_letter_to_the_51.html
Times of Trenton Letters to the Editor - Jan. 19
on January 19, 2014 at 6:00 AM, updated January 27, 2014 at 10:25 AM

Bristol incinerator must be stopped

New Jersey's air could get dirtier if an incinerator proposed for Bristol Township, Pa., is built ("Bristol incinerator hearing to resume next month," Jan. 15). Because of prevailing westerly winds, this plant could end up polluting Mercer and Burlington counties. Toxic ash and dangerous particles from the estimated 25,000 pounds of waste to be burned every day could threaten communities' air quality and public health.

When you burn hazardous waste such as nail polish remover, pesticides and other toxic chemicals, you don't get rid of it. Instead, it changes form and releases pollution and toxins into the air, polluting the environment.

This region's air quality is already ranked in the top 20 worst areas. Now air quality could get even worse with a giant smokestack belching toxins into the air.

Our water could also be at risk. Chemicals will be transported by truck. If there were an accident or spill or if there were a leak at the tanks on site, this could spill into the Delaware River, which would threaten the water supply for Philadelphia, Burlington and Camden counties. Tides could push chemicals right into Trenton's water supply intake, threatening the public's drinking water.

Our rivers belong to all of us. Across the country, we are opening up our riverfronts for people to enjoy. A toxic incinerator could push away not only people, but residential and commercial development. This project is dangerous to our environment and communities; it must be stopped.

Jeff Tittel,
Trenton

The writer is director of the New Jersey Sierra Club (sierraclub.org).

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/editorial/representing-whose-interests/article_5dfd7fbc-a0da-5cde-a99b-bb540339fca4.html

Representing whose interests?

3 Comments

Posted: Sunday, January 19, 2014 6:00 am

State Rep. Frank Farry, whose district includes mostly Middletown Township, has unnecessarily - and imprudently, in our view - immersed himself in the incinerator controversy raging next door in Bristol Township.

Farry involved himself not as an elected member of the state House, he says, but as a safety expert stemming from his career in emergency management in Bucks County. For that involvement, the Republican state rep and longtime fire chief is being paid by the developers of the proposed project. Among those developers is Republican heavyweight Pat Deon, who boasts a resume's worth of involvement in county and state government.

But back to Farry's role as a paid consultant: We asked him how much he's getting paid; he refused to say.

A little background: The proposed incinerator, sited near the Delaware River in Bristol Township, would daily burn 60 tons of industrial materials - primarily alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives. One expert described that stuff as "organic," adding that the levels of nitrous and sulfur dioxides emitted by the plant would be lower than other big businesses in the area.

Still, folks are naturally worried. An overflow crowd of Bristol Township and Burlington, N.J. citizens and officials jammed this week's Bristol Township zoning board meeting. The board must decide whether to allow the plant to operate even though zoning prohibits it. On that point, the applicants claim the township zoning law is unconstitutional because it does not provide for an incinerator. That's exclusionary, they say.

The board put off a decision until next month.

For his part, Farry testified that after reviewing the proposal he found it safe. Interestingly, Farry's testimony did not include the fact that he is an elected state representative, though he told columnist JD Mullane that he would have owned up to it if anyone asked. He also told Mullane that he ran his involvement by the state ethics commission and that the commission gave him a seal of approval. Additionally, he said he'd never use his status as a state government insider to influence state agencies vested with a say in the approval process.

That's good to hear.

Unfortunately for Farry, citizens these days are skeptical of politicians. Very skeptical. It's why elected officials should go out of their way to walk the straight and narrow.

To be clear, we're not saying Rep. Farry has done anything wrong. He hasn't. He says his interest is in making the place as safe as possible.

Our view is he could do that as a representative of the people who elected him. He's already getting

paid by them. Taking money from special interests that include a GOP big wig, compromises Farry's role as the people's representative - at least in the eyes of skeptical citizens. There's no way around it.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/opinion/editorial/representing-whose-interests/article_6db2b680-a5d6-5834-9d43-fb37193a1ee8.html

Representing whose interests?

Posted: Monday, January 20, 2014 1:00 am

Frank Farry, a state representative from Pennsylvania whose district includes mostly Middletown Township, has unnecessarily immersed himself in the incinerator controversy raging on both sides of the Delaware River.

Burlington City and Burlington County officials have formally protested the plan for an incinerator near the river in Bristol Township, Pa., as has former Gov. Jim Florio.

Farry involved himself not as an elected member of the Statehouse, he says, but as a safety expert stemming from his career in emergency management in Bucks County. For that involvement, the Republican state rep and longtime fire chief is being paid by the developers of the proposed project. Among those developers is Republican heavyweight Pat Deon, who boasts a resume's worth of involvement in local government in the Keystone State.

But back to Farry's role as a paid consultant: Our sister paper in his district, the Bucks County Courier Times, asked him how much he's getting paid; he refused to say.

The proposed incinerator would burn 60 tons per day of industrial materials, primarily alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives. One expert described that stuff as "organic," adding that the levels of nitrous and sulfur dioxides emitted by the plant would be lower than other big businesses in the area.

Still, folks are naturally worried. An overflow crowd of citizens and officials from both sides of the river jammed last week's Bristol Township zoning board meeting. The board has to decide whether to allow the plant to operate even though zoning prohibits it. On that point, the applicants claim the township's zoning law is unconstitutional because it does not provide for an incinerator. That's exclusionary, they say.

The board put off a decision until next month.

For his part, Farry testified that after reviewing the proposal, he found it safe. Interestingly, Farry's testimony did not include the fact that he is an elected state representative in Pennsylvania, although he told one of the Courier's writers that he would have owned up to it if anyone asked. He also told the writer that he ran his involvement by the state ethics commission and that the commission gave him a seal of approval. Additionally, he said he'd never use his status as a state government insider to influence state agencies vested with a say in the approval process.

That's good to hear.

Unfortunately for Farry, citizens these days are skeptical of politicians. Very skeptical.

To be clear, we're not saying Farry has done anything wrong. He hasn't. He says his interest is in making the place as safe as possible.

Our view is he could do that as a representative of the people. He's already getting paid by them. Taking money from special interests that include a GOP big wig compromises his role as the people's representative - at least in citizens' eyes.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/we-need-clean-industry/article_0a46961d-eb1a-5edf-a665-eb4e2f85494f.html

We need clean industry

Posted: Monday, January 20, 2014 6:00 am

Bristol Township zoning officials are contemplating allowing the building of an industrial waste incinerator. The facility would receive about 4,300 tractor-trailer loads of hazardous waste per year, traveling on local highways and most likely on the eight soon-to-be-built high-speed ramps of the Turnpike/I-95 Interchange. And even more toxic ash and contaminated water from the incinerating process would again travel over our roads on their way to a facility in upstate New York ... with the risk of a spill.

Bristol Township needs clean industry to support its commercial tax base, not a dirty one that jeopardizes the health of its residents.

Robert J. Leone, president

Newportville-Fergusonville Civic Association

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/opinion/letters/incinerator-plan-needs-to-be-stopped/article_c221a27e-f38c-5de6-856c-fef095890dad.html

Incinerator plan needs to be stopped

Posted: Tuesday, January 21, 2014 1:00 am

New Jersey's air could get dirtier if an incinerator being proposed in Bristol Township, Pa., is built. Because of westerly winds, this plant could end up polluting Mercer and Burlington counties. Toxic ash and dangerous particles from the estimated 25,000 pounds of waste to be burned every day could threaten communities' air quality and public health.

When you burn hazardous waste like nail polish removers, pesticides and other toxic chemicals, you don't get rid of it. Instead, it is just changing forms, releasing pollution and some toxins into the air, polluting our environment. This region already has some of the worst air quality in the nation. It's ranked among the top 20 worst areas. Now air quality could get even worse with a giant smokestack belching toxins into the air.

Our water could also be at risk since transportation of chemicals will be by truck. If there was an accident or spill or if there was a leak at the tanks on-site, this could spill into the Delaware River. This will threaten the water supply for Philadelphia, Burlington and Camden counties. Tides could push chemicals right into Trenton's water supply intake, threatening the public's drinking water. Our rivers belong to all of us. Across the country, we are opening up our riverfronts for use by the people, and instead this toxic incinerator could push away not only people, but also residential and commercial development. This project is dangerous to our environment and communities; it must be stopped.

Jeff Tittel
Director
New Jersey Sierra Club
Trenton

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2014/01/mercer_county_freeholders_express_concerns_about_bristol_incinerator_plans.html

Mercer County freeholders express concerns about Bristol incinerator plans

Print Alyssa Mease/The Times of Trenton

on January 23, 2014 at 10:24 PM, updated January 23, 2014 at 10:36 PM

The Mercer County freeholders last night voted to urge the Bristol Township, Pa., zoning board to consider the negative effects of a proposed hazardous waste incinerator on a location near the Delaware River.

"We're joining our colleagues in Burlington County in expressing concerns about this particular incinerator project," Freeholder Chairman Andrew Koontz said.

At issue is the concern that the chemicals being burned in the incinerator will not only pollute Bristol, but make their way to Burlington and farther north to Trenton and other areas in Mercer County in the form of toxic ash or dangerous air particles if the wind is blowing toward New Jersey.

Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes last week sent a separate request for more information to the Bristol zoning board.

"There's a very important potential environmental problem for Mercer County, and I've seen all the wind maps," Hughes said.

Freeholder Lucylle Walter attended the zoning board hearing last week and said the incinerator could burn 60 tons of waste per day. Experts who testified at the Bristol zoning board meeting said the effect the pollution would have on the Delaware River and neighboring towns is unknown, Walter said.

"There was no way of knowing what will fall in the river," Walter said. "They were not able to give an answer to what that would be like."

The closest similar incinerator is in East Liverpool, Ohio, Walter said.

"And actually it's a site that has had a number of accidents. When you look it up, they've had a number of fires and other things happen at that site," Walter said.

The company that proposed the incinerator, Route 13 Bristol Partners, has no experience managing an incinerator of that type, Walter said.

"None of the people who testified, I believe, have ever been in charge of an incinerator," Walter said.

The residue from the rubbing alcohol, nail polish remover, paint thinners, aerosol cans, pesticides and herbicides, adhesive materials, water-based inks and antifreeze that are burned in the incinerator would have to be transported to a specialized landfill in upstate New York, she said.

"It's a specialized landfill that deals with wastes that have high metals content: cadmium, lead, mercury," Walter said. "You never get rid of whatever it is you're burning. You just reduce it."

Contact Alyssa Mease at amease@njtimes.com.

<http://levittownnow.com/2014/01/26/twp-zoning-board-meeting-rescheduled/>

By Jeff Bohlen January 26, 2014 0 Comments

Read More ?

Bristol Incinerator Hearing Rescheduled

The January zoning board meeting was SRO. Credit: Jeff Bohlen LevittownNow.com

The January zoning board meeting was SRO.

Credit: Jeff Bohlen

LevittownNow.com

The Bristol Township Zoning Board meeting scheduled for February 10 has been rescheduled till February 24, officials told LevittownNow.com this weekend.

Zoning Board Chair Chuck Clayton said the meeting was being rescheduled for two reasons .The meeting, regularly scheduled for the second Monday of the month, would fall on the President's day holiday and board solicitor Kenneth D. Federman, will be out of the country on the 10th, Clayton said.

Clayton said he didn't know when the meeting was tabled on January 14 the solicitor's plans otherwise the meeting would have been scheduled accordingly.

According to Zoning board officials, the meeting must take place within 45 days of the January's hearing

Clayton did say applicant Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia approved the date change and now officials have more time to wrestle with the issue before making decision.

Member of the public listening intently to testimony giving at the January zoning board meeting
Member of the public listening intently to testimony giving at the January zoning board meeting
Clayton, at the end of the last meeting, said he wanted to gather more information to learn more about the issue that has crested into a controversial issue in the days leading up to the January zoning board meeting.

Clayton said, the group represented by former New Jersey Governor Jim Florio (of Florio, Perucci, Steinhardt and Fader, with an office in Cherry Hill, New Jersey) had asked the township for a bigger meeting space so more people could attend the hearing, but said that could not happen.

The January meeting was standing room only, as the meeting room, hallways, and front entrance to the municipal building were filled with interested members of the public.

Clayton said the groups request to have the meeting moved to larger facilities was denied because it wasn't possible in terms of time and cost, adding "we would need to set up camera's and audio for broadcasting purposes and we don't have the finances to do that."

He did add, a live broadcast of the February 24 meeting could be seen live on the township's website or for those that can not attend the hearing it could be watched on Comcast Cablevision Channel 22 and Verizon FiOS Channel 45.

Late Saturday night Clayton via e-mail said he's going to ask Bristol Township Fire Marshal Kevin Dippolito if more seats can be added for the public can be added to the meeting space.

“It’s not something we’ve ever done.” Clayton said, about moving the meeting to a larger space, “so we’re going to work with what we have,” he said.

On Sunday morning Dippolito said more seats could be added for the February 24 meeting and would approve the request made by zoning officials.

Contributed:

Contributed:

Clayton, with the boards support tabled the motion to vote on the ordinance request by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP about 4.5 hours into the meeting because he and his fellow board members thought more time was needed to collect more information on the subject.

Calyton said he wants to “hear more from township residents” about the growing controversy before the meeting.

The original hearing scheduled to take place in December was rescheduled at the request of the applicant and moved to January.

At the time, sources close to the board said they expected the variance request to pass without issue but then social media and published reports out of New Jersey caught the attention of township residents and those from other communities near by culminating in the “huge” turnout at last month’s meeting.

At the standing room only meeting an outcry from a majority of those in attendance to shelve the plan was heard.

‘Applicant officials say their plan consists of two incinerators being built which would burn 60 tons of garbage daily including alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

At the heart of the issue is whether to approve the variance request for the two incinerators which officials from the applicant say is proper since the township has no on the books regulations against this kind of commercial industry

“Our responsibility is simple,” said Clayton,” if we pass it ultimately its up to council whether to accept the business here or not,” he said.

Officials from Burlington New Jersey, Bensalem, Bristol Township Council, State Rep Davis’s office, among a plethora of other local officials attended the sometimes tense meeting in January.

Locally, social medias influence, among some other factors, are now playing a role in the run up to the next hearing.

In the days after the January hearing social media page called “Ban the Burn in Bristol” was ignited and now a petition started by concerned residents of Bristol Borough is seeking the support of Bristol Borough Council Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-8), State Rep. John Galloway, (D-140) and State Sen. Robert Tomlinson, (PA -6) to ” oppose the hazardous waste incinerator.”

Former Bristol Councilman Don Mobley hired, at his own expense, Founder and Director of the Energy Justice Network Mike Ewall who presented an on the fly” power point illustration during the

last meeting has vociferously opposed the plan being reviewed by the board.

As one zoning official put it late last week about the controversy, you can't vote for clean air or truck traffic. That's not why you're on the zoning board. That's for the Bristol Township council to handle, we can only pass or reject the zoning request.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bensalem/bensalem-votes-to-protest-proposed-incinerator/article_f6113fac-79e5-5185-87dc-3f6aa6d13dad.html

Bensalem votes to protest proposed incinerator

4 Comments

Posted: Monday, January 27, 2014 9:32 pm | Updated: 1:48 pm, Tue Jan 28, 2014.

By ANTHONY DIMATTIA Staff writer

Bensalem officials have joined the fight against a proposed industrial materials burner that would be placed along the Delaware River in Bristol Township.

The Bensalem Township council voted unanimously Monday night to pass a resolution protesting the placement of a 53,000-square-foot plant that would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge in the neighboring township.

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/expert-clarify-credentials-on-chemical-incineration/article_0744efa6-fc69-595e-a422-01594cee3af5.html

'Expert'? Clarify credentials on chemical incineration

Posted: Monday, January 27, 2014 6:00 am | Updated: 2:59 pm, Mon Jan 27, 2014.

By THOMAS L. TOTH

State Rep. Frank Farry has been retained as a "safety consultant" by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP to review their plans for a proposed chemical incinerator in Bristol Township.

Farry's education and work experience is as follows: <http://www.repfarry.com/PrintBio.aspx>

Neshaminy High School Bachelor of science in economics from the University of Pennsylvania Master of science in public policy from Rutgers University Juris doctor from Rutgers University School of Law Assistant township manager for Middletown Township from October 2000 to June 2008 Attorney with the law firm of Begley, Carlin & Mandio in Langhorne Volunteer firefighter with the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Company since June 1990 and as chief of the organization since January 2001

An impressive resume, but I do not see how any of this education and experience qualifies Mr. Farry to testify on the safety of an incinerator that will daily burn 60 tons of industrial materials - primarily alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives. I can understand how Mr. Farry's safety claims could address fire concerns, but given his education and work experience, I do not see how his safety claims could include chemical and environmental issues. Mr. Farry needs to clarify or limit his safety claims.

Mr. Farry, according to Courier Times columnist J.D. Mullane, "even ran his relationship as a consultant on the incinerator project by the state Ethics Commission, which, he (Farry) told me (Mullane) raises no worries about conflict of interest." Has the Bucks County Courier Times verified this with the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission? It may indeed be ethical, but a key role of ethics rules is to prevent the appearance of unethical behavior. It is unclear if Mr. Farry's actions pass this test.

One would think the applicant or Bristol Township, which is considering a zoning variance to allow the incinerator, would retain an individual with an advanced degree in chemistry, chemical engineering and/or environmental engineering with experience in pollutant incineration to explain precisely what will happen at the proposed incinerator:

n How pollutants would be transported to the facility.

n How the chemical nature of the pollutants would be verified upon receipt, to determine if the compounds are safe and legal to be incinerated.

How the pollutants would be safely stored at the site with no adjacent storage of chemicals that may react badly if mixed accidentally. How the pollutants would be safely incinerated with no pollution. How the remaining waste would be disposed of.

The zoning applicant and Mr. Farry tout that only "organic" compounds will be burned. Well, all "organic" compounds are not safe to transport, store or burn. Just because a compound is organic does not mean it is harmless.

See Persistent Organic Pollutant http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persistent_organic_pollutant

Are you aware that 4-Methylcyclohexanemethanol, MCHM is an organic compound with the formula $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ and is classified as an alicyclic primary alcohol? See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/4-Methylcyclohexanemethanol>

By the way, 4-Methylcyclohexanemethanol, MCHM, is the chemical recently spilled in West Virginia, but don't be concerned. It's only an organic compound, an alcohol.

And don't worry, Republican player and incinerator principal Pat Deon and Rep. Frank Farry are looking out for your safety and interests.

This proposed incinerator stinks and they have not yet started to burn anything.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/opinion/letters/proposed-incinerator-a-hazard-to-county-residents/article_2ec7d17f-311c-5567-a489-9f8969dbc67d.html

Proposed incinerator a hazard to county residents

Posted: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 1:00 am

I am writing to express my concern over the upcoming proposal for the hazardous waste incinerator in Bristol Township, Pa. As a Burlington City resident who works and is raising a family, we will be breathing the air one mile from the proposed site. I find it outrageous that such an environmentally harmful venture would be considered. In years past, industrial waste was dumped and pumped into the rivers and open spaces. Today we see the results of multiple "Superfund" cleanup sites all around us. Have we as a community not learned the lessons of the past?

As I sat at the Jan. 13 meeting at the Bristol Township Municipal Building, I heard the paid experts tell the community how safe and good this would be, only then to learn that known carcinogens would be released daily into the air. The ash from the burned chemicals is so toxic it has to be buried in a special landfill in upstate New York. Truckloads of toxic waste will be driving through our neighborhoods and by our schools several times a day. Residents living near these types of incinerators have an increased risk of lung cancer, leukemia, lymphomas, breast cancers, childhood diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma and other ailments. How is this good?

I heard the incinerator might employ 100 people and bring in tax money. Will the tax money help those who breathe the air and pay for their medical care and cancer treatments? Or will we need to put more Alex's Lemonade stands in our neighborhoods? The boards are voted in by the people to represent the people. At this meeting, it was rather clear the communities collectively do not want this.

It is hoped that the elected leaders will have a better vision of the future, where we can tap into the rich history of this area on both sides of the river. We have the potential of being a premier tourist area, one in which people can enjoy the waterfronts, historical sites, possibly Burlington Island, and new businesses can move in and provide more employment opportunities. This is a future that our children could be proud of.

Nancy Franklin
Burlington City

http://www.buckslocalnews.com/articles/2014/01/29/bristol_pilot/news/doc52e969bb127d3588450424.txt

Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator launches online petition drive

Published: Wednesday, January 29, 2014

By Jeff Werner

BucksLocalNews.com

BRISTOL BOROUGH - A residents group calling itself the Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator has launched an online petition drive urging the Bristol Borough Council to formally oppose plans for an incinerator in neighboring Bristol Township.

The King of Prussia-based Bristol Partners has filed a zoning application with the township for a 50,000 square foot incinerator that would burn 60 tons of industrial waste products per day. It would be located at the Bridge Business Center on George Patterson Boulevard.

Proponents say the construction of the plant would create 80 new construction jobs, generate \$5 million in tax revenue for the township and would emit fumes at levels lower than some of the area's larger businesses.

The petition, posted on the website, www.change.org, asks council to pass a resolution opposing the plan, to send legal representation to the Feb. 24 Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting and to request "party status" in the appeal.

The petition reads, "We, the undersigned residents of Bristol Borough, stand united in our opposition to the proposed building of a 50,000 square foot hazardous waste incineration site along the banks of the Delaware River, less than one mile from our homes, schools and businesses.

"We deem its creation and operation to be a serious health risk to the residents of this community, an unwanted environmental threat to our already burdened air and water supply, and a hostile economic assault on our working class community of tax payers, businesses and home owners."

The petition continues, "We take great pride in our historic town and our tight-knit community and are petitioning our government to defend our property, our town and our investment to the fullest extent of the law against private and public interests who wish to enrich themselves at the expense of our health and prosperity.

"We expect our elected officials - local, state and federal - to represent the will of the people of Bristol in no uncertain terms and do everything within their power to make sure the plans to build this incinerator do not come to fruition."

The petition concludes by saying, "We stand arm-in-arm with our local leaders who have already been vocal in their opposition and support council's effort to pass a resolution. We ask council to retain legal representation in this matter, request 'party status' and join the elected officials of Bensalem, Burlington and Mercer counties who have shown true leadership in their efforts to oppose this looming environmental and economic threat to our communities."

The petition is signed by the "Citizens of Bristol Borough" and has been sent to Bristol Borough

Council, U.S. Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick, State Rep. John Galloway and State Sen. Robert Tomlinson,

In January, Bristol Borough Councilman Greg Pezza voiced "deep, deep concern" over plans for the incinerator, which would be located just beyond the borough's border, and called it "one of the biggest issues" facing the borough in years.

"I do not claim to be an expert on the environment or the laws regulating such a thing," admitted Pezza. "I don't know what an industrial waste incinerator necessarily means, but my instincts tell me it's not going to be good."

Pezza said unless he hears evidence to the contrary, "it's going to take a lot for me to say that's going to be good for Bristol. I have deep, deep concerns about what that incinerator will be. I have deep concerns that Bristol Township is silent about it considering they are going to reap all of the tax benefits and the only thing we're going to reap are smoke stacks spewing industrial waste."

The borough sent its zoning officer, Sally Bellaspica, to the township's zoning board meeting in January to deliver a letter asking that Bristol Township "consider both the environmental and the traffic impact" the incinerator could have upon neighboring borough residents.

In the borough's statement, the borough reminds the zoning board of a lightning strike at the neighboring Dow Chemical site in May 2012 that ignited a tank and sent noxious fumes into the air affecting the residents of the borough's West Ward and forcing the emergency closure of borough schools.

"Those residents are in close proximity to this incinerator project, and in fact live closer than most of the residents of Bristol Township," reads the statement.

"The borough would ask that you consider the exact nature of the particulates which will be released by the incinerator, and the potential health hazards related to those particulates," reads the statement.

"Also, since the borough draws its drinking water from the Delaware River, we would also ask that you consider the affect which any storm water runoff would have upon the river.

"Additionally," reads the statement, "the borough is concerned about the traffic impact from the numerous trucks delivering the waste to the facility, and the trucks which will be removing any residue from the facility."

The hearing on the application, which began in January, will continue on Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. at the township building, 2501 Bath Road, Bristol. The meeting is open to the public.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/bristol-jumps-into-the-fight-against-an-incinerator/article_1ddda312-479d-552b-9219-f70c98858a4e.html

Bristol jumps into the fight against an incinerator

3 Comments

Posted: Wednesday, January 29, 2014 7:00 pm | Updated: 6:54 am, Fri Jan 31, 2014.

By GEMA MARIA DUARTE Staff writer

Hundreds of Bristol residents don't want a proposed industrial waste burner in their backyard, and they aren't standing on the sidelines.

A grassroots movement has been started to oppose the plans of Route 13 Bristol Partners LP for the incinerator in neighboring Bristol Township. The effort includes a petition and a social media campaign to get more people to join their efforts.

Opponents say that such a project would hurt surrounding communities, including their own.

"I do not claim to be an expert, but I'd hate for Bristol to be the case study 30 years from now about how all the talk of incinerators being clean was wrong. I cannot believe that burning 60 tons of toxic waste a day will not impact the long-term health of those nearby," said Bristol Councilman Greg Pezza, who is one of the leading forces in the borough opposing the incinerator.

Route 13 Bristol Partners wants to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near Street Road, according to the application filed with Bristol Township.

The company is requesting variances to operate the incinerator, which is not among the permitted uses listed in Bristol Township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

Opponents argue that an incinerator would be environmentally hazardous for residents, the air quality and the Delaware River.

Company officials have said the plant would not impact the water system nor wildlife, and listed as safeguards round-the-clock staffers, an automatic shut-off mechanism, extensive record keeping and ongoing reporting.

Opponents counter by saying it would drive down economic recovery in Bristol, which has been making strides with projects such as the floating docks under development that are mostly being funded by county and federal money. The docks are expected to boost tourism in the county.

Furthermore, Bristol businesses are working on an application for faAade grants to boost the look of their buildings in an effort to attract more foot traffic.

"Consider Mill Street. We are in the midst of a rebirth. We have boat docks coming in. An incinerator as a backdrop is not a welcomed development," said Pezza, who started the Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator and Facebook page.

The petition, which as of Wednesday night had 637 signatures, has been circulating within the town and surrounding areas.

The target is 1,000 signatures. When that is reached, the petition will be sent to the Bristol Council, U.S. Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick, R-8, of Middletown, state Rep. John Galloway, D-140, of Falls , and state Sen. Tommy Tomlinson, R-6, of Bensalem, with the goal of obtaining their leadership in the fight against what residents are calling a looming environmental and economic threat to their communities.

"We, the undersigned residents of Bristol Borough, stand united in our opposition to the proposed building of a 50,000 square foot hazardous waste incineration site along the banks of the Delaware River, less than one mile from our homes, schools and businesses," reads the petition on change.org. "We deem its creation and operation to be a serious health risk to the residents of this community, an unwanted environmental threat to our already burdened air and water supply, and a hostile economic assault on our working class community of taxpayers, businesses and home owners."

It's just a bad idea for Bristol for many reasons, Pezza said.

"Mainly for the quality of life of our residents," he said. "We have a great community with so many advantages, but a main advantage is our interaction with our natural environment, the river. In my estimation, this completely does away with those environmental geographic advantages."

Bristol isn't alone in the fight against the incinerator. Officials and residents in neighboring communities, including some in New Jersey, already are on the front lines. Bensalem recently passed a resolution opposing the plan, as did Burlington and Mercer counties in New Jersey.

Pezza intends to ask the Bristol Council at Monday's meeting to also draft a resolution stating the borough's opposition to the incinerator.

Additionally, he's going to ask the council members to send legal representation to the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting at 7 p.m. Feb. 24 at the municipal building, 2501 Bath Road. He'd like Bristol to request "party status." If that happens, Bristol would be considered an interested party in the matter and be included in any hearings that might come up involving the incinerator.

Chuck Clayton, chairman of the township's zoning hearing board, on Wednesday said that his board wants facts from Route 13 Bristol Partners regarding how the incinerator would affect the area before a decision is made.

"(The zoning hearing board) needs solid information as to why we would need the incinerator in Bristol Township," he said.

Representatives from Route 13 Bristol Partners LP have said that the incinerator project can create 80 new construction jobs. They have calculated \$5 million in tax revenue for the township.

Pezza understands the importance of bringing new revenue to municipalities, but he doesn't believe the incinerator is the answer.

"I completely understand that difficult decisions have to be made at times to spur development and help taxpayers," he said. "However, I do not think this is the project for that. We've always considered the

success of our neighbors essential to our own success. I hope the township feels the same way. This will benefit their residents in a very minimal way and significantly hurt the township's neighbors."

"Our health is more important than money," Brenda Martin of the Croydon section of Bristol Township wrote on the petition.

Opponents from all over Bucks County argue that Bristol has taken its share of environmental punches.

Dow Chemical is on one side of the borough and the Tullytown landfill on the other, said Nicole Thompson of Morrisville, who grew up in Bristol.

Bristol resident Lathan Andrews signed the petition, "The area is too small to have any more hazards added to it. We already have enough trouble and discomfort with chemical plants and trash heaps that surround us. We have enough."

Many want to maintain and respect Bristol's history, which stretches back to before the Revolutionary War.

"We take great pride in our historic town and our tight-knit community and are petitioning our government to defend our property, our town and our investment to the fullest extent of the law against private and public interests who wish to enrich themselves at the expense of our health and prosperity," reads the petition. "We expect our elected officials - local, state and federal - to represent the will of the people of Bristol in no uncertain terms and do everything within their power to make sure the plans to build this incinerator do not come to fruition."

The petition can be found at www.change.org. Search for Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator. The Facebook page is: www.facebook.com/bristolcampaigntoblocktheincinerator.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/bristol-jumps-into-the-fight-against-an-incinerator/article_5d55dbf9-b516-569a-aef1-9d09ac72c5ac.html

Bristol jumps into the fight against an incinerator

Posted: Wednesday, January 29, 2014 7:00 pm | Updated: 6:54 am, Fri Jan 31, 2014.

By GEMA MARIA DUARTE Staff writer

Hundreds of Bristol Borough, Pa., residents don't want a proposed industrial waste burner in their backyard, and they aren't standing on the sidelines.

A grass-roots movement has been started to oppose the plans of Route 13 Bristol Partners LP for the incinerator in neighboring Bristol Township. The effort includes a petition and a social media campaign to get more people to join their efforts.

Opponents say such a project would hurt surrounding communities, including their own.

"I do not claim to be an expert, but I'd hate for Bristol to be the case study 30 years from now about how all the talk of incinerators being clean was wrong. I cannot believe that burning 60 tons of toxic waste a day will not impact the long-term health of those nearby," said Bristol Borough Councilman Greg Pezza, who is one of the leading forces in the borough opposing the incinerator.

Route 13 Bristol Partners wants to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near Street Road, according to the application filed with Bristol Township.

Opponents argue that an incinerator would be environmentally hazardous for residents, the air quality and the Delaware River.

Additionally, they say, it would drive down economic recovery in Bristol, which has been making strides with projects such as the floating docks under development that mostly are being funded by county and federal money. The docks are expected to boost tourism in Bucks County.

Furthermore, Bristol businesses are working on an application for faAade grants to boost the look of their buildings in an effort to attract more foot traffic.

"Consider Mill Street. We are in the midst of a rebirth. We have boat docks coming in. An incinerator as a backdrop is not a welcomed development," said Pezza, who started the Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator and a Facebook page.

The petition, which as of Wednesday night had 637 signatures, has been circulating within the quaint town and surrounding areas.

The target is 1,000 signatures. When that is reached, the petition will be sent to the Bristol Borough Council, U.S. Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick, state Rep. John Galloway, and state Sen. Tommy Tomlinson, with the goal of obtaining their leadership in the fight against what residents are calling a looming environmental and economic threat to their communities.

"We, the undersigned residents of Bristol Borough, stand united in our opposition to the proposed

building of a 50,000-square-foot hazardous waste incineration site along the banks of the Delaware River, less than one mile from our homes, schools and businesses," reads the petition on change.org. "We deem its creation and operation to be a serious health risk to the residents of this community, an unwanted environmental threat to our already burdened air and water supply, and a hostile economic assault on our working-class community of taxpayers, businesses and homeowners."

It's a bad idea for Bristol for many reasons, Pezza said.

"Mainly for the quality of life of our residents," he said. "We have a great community with so many advantages, but a main advantage is our interaction with our natural environment, the river. In my estimation, this completely does away with those environmental geographic advantages."

Bristol isn't alone in the fight against the incinerator. Officials and residents in neighboring communities, including some in New Jersey, particularly Burlington City, already are on the front lines. Bensalem recently passed a resolution opposing the plan, as did Burlington and Mercer counties.

Pezza intends to ask the Bristol council at Monday's meeting to also draft a resolution stating in no unclear terms the borough's opposition to the incinerator.

Additionally, he's going to ask the council members to send legal representation to the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting at 7 p.m. Feb. 24 at the municipal building, 2501 Bath Road. He'd like Bristol to request "party status." If that happens, Bristol would be considered an interested party in the matter and be included in any hearings that might come up involving the incinerator.

Chuck Clayton, chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board, said Wednesday that the board wants facts from Route 13 Bristol Partners regarding how the incinerator would affect the area before a decision is made.

"(The board) needs solid information as to why we would need the incinerator in Bristol Township," Clayton said.

Pezza understands the importance of bringing new revenue to municipalities, but he doesn't believe the incinerator is the answer.

"I completely understand that difficult decisions have to be made at times to spur development and help taxpayers," he said. "However, I do not think this is the project for that. We've always considered the success of our neighbors essential to our own success. I hope the township feels the same way. This will benefit their residents in a very minimal way and significantly hurt the township's neighbors."

"Our health is more important than money," said Brenda Martin of the Croydon section of Bristol Township.

Opponents from all over Bucks County argue that Bristol has taken its share of environmental punches.

Dow Chemical is on one side of the borough and the Tullytown landfill on the other, said Nicole Thompson of Morrisville, who grew up in Bristol.

Borough resident Lathan Andrews said, "The area is too small to have any more hazards added to it. We already have enough trouble and discomfort with chemical plants and trash heaps that surround us."

We have enough."

Many want to maintain and respect Bristol's history, which stretches back to before the Revolutionary War.

"We take great pride in our historic town and our tight-knit community and are petitioning our government to defend our property, our town and our investment to the fullest extent of the law against private and public interests who wish to enrich themselves at the expense of our health and prosperity," reads the petition. "We expect our elected officials - local, state and federal - to represent the will of the people of Bristol in no uncertain terms and do everything within their power to make sure the plans to build this incinerator do not come to fruition."

The petition can be found at www.change.org. Search for Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator. The Facebook page is www.facebook.com/bristolcampaigntoblocktheincinerator.

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014301300002&gcheck=1>

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: People don't want incinerator

Jan. 28, 2014 | 0 Comments

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed hazardous-waste incinerator in Bristol, Pa. My family would be breathing the air one mile from the proposed site.

I find it outrageous that such an environmentally harmful venture would be considered. In years past, industrial waste was dumped and pumped into rivers and open spaces. Today we see the results of Superfund sites all around us. Have we not learned the lessons of the past?

At a Jan. 13 meeting, I heard paid experts tell the community how safe and good this would be, only then to learn that known carcinogens would be released daily into the air. The ash from the burned chemicals is so toxic it has to be buried in a special landfill in upstate N.Y. Truckloads of toxic waste will be driving through our neighborhoods and by our schools several times a day. Residents living near these types of incinerators have a known increase in lung cancer, leukemia, lymphomas, breast cancers, childhood diseases, COPD, asthma and other ailments.

How is this good? I heard the project might employ 100 people and bring in tax money. Will the money help those who breathe the air pay for medical care? Or will we need to put more Alex's Lemonade Stands in our neighborhoods?

The boards are voted in by the people to represent the people. At this meeting, it was rather clear the communities collectively do not want this.

It is hoped elected leaders will have a better vision of the future, one in which we tap into the rich history on both sides of the river.

NANCY FRANKLIN

Burlington

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/editorial/correction-and-clarification/article_fcfa18d7-c5f8-507b-9456-286208177535.html

Correction and clarification

1 Comments

Posted: Sunday, February 2, 2014 6:00 am

In an editorial published Jan. 19, we stated state Rep. Frank Farry testified before the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board that he found a proposed incinerator safe. Farry did not say that. He did testify that his firm, RIT Consulting, is working with the developers on emergency management procedures for the incinerator proposed within Bristol Township near the Delaware River. Farry, who testified as a paid consultant, has had a career in emergency management services. The editorial stated Farry was taking money from special interests. That is incorrect. He is being paid by the developers.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/vent/the-vent-for-feb/article_aa6661a6-69d5-5b10-8ebb-6b862d9d231a.html

The Vent for Feb. 2

Posted: Sunday, February 2, 2014 6:00 am

I inherited many things from my mother that have served me well in life. One is a nose that tells me something is not right. This incinerator proposition in Bristol Township is not right. It just does not pass the smell test and it's not in operation yet.

James F. Kesler, Levittown

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/columnists/jd-mullane/mullane-super-bowl-immoral/article_92304906-48b8-557c-b046-7c2e161b8ae6.html

Posted: Sunday, February 2, 2014 1:30 am | Updated: 6:49 am, Mon Feb 3, 2014.

By J.D. Mullane

Correction/clarification

My column on Jan. 16 about a proposed incinerator in Bristol Township regarding testimony by state Rep. Frank Farry, R-142, Langhorne, requires clarification and correction.

I reported: "Farry told the township zoning hearing board Monday (Jan. 13) that he has reviewed the proposal and it is completely safe. There will even be tours for kids, he said."

Farry, who has been hired as a safety consultant by the builders of the incinerator, Route 13 Bristol Partners LP, did not say the plant is "completely safe." That was my paraphrased shorthand for his testimony, and should have been more precise.

The "tours for kids" is incorrect. Farry, who's also chief of the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Co., said in his testimony that the company "will be offering tours of the facility" and "they'll be regular plant walk-throughs and tours," but he was referring to emergency management personnel, not the general public.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/incinerator-s-far-reaching-impact/article_66c465ef-9692-56dd-8188-50a8f8e1193c.html

Incinerator's far-reaching impact

Posted: Sunday, February 2, 2014 6:00 am

I attended the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting on Jan. 13, when Route 13 Bristol Partners LP was requesting a variance, as well as challenging the constitutionality of the existing "zoning designation." This began the process of establishing an industrial waste incinerator on the former Rohm and Haas site. During the four-hour-plus meeting numerous paid experts for Route 13 Bristol Partners LP made many claims about the supposed safety, appropriateness, and benefits of this potentially toxic facility.

The location for the proposed incinerator was designated as a Superfund site in the 1990s thanks to earlier chemical operations there; it cost a fortune to remediate the site, and now this group of investors runs the risk of doing it again, as the incinerator will burn, among other things, solvents, paints, pesticides/herbicides, plastics, and other industrial waste.

It's only natural to worry that during the process, pollutants and toxic dust could be released into our air, including over the Delaware River. The possible side effects include a host of possible detrimental health and environmental impacts.

The end product of this process is destined for a landfill in upstate New York, Niagara County, that will store it (mere miles from "Love Canal" for those old enough to remember that ongoing environmental disaster). This landfill is already very close to capacity.

In addition to what this facility potentially could do to the quality of life and property values in Bristol Township, I believe it could also spread its effects throughout the neighboring communities and beyond.

Consider what this will mean to our children and our grandchildren.

Susan Schmidt
Bristol

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/vent/the-vent-for-feb/article_a98c5856-0598-51c0-b5d1-a6a3a40e19ed.html

The Vent for Feb. 3

Posted: Monday, February 3, 2014 6:00 am

I am hearing NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) regarding the incinerator proposal in Bristol Township. I understand fears but if we use of these chemical compounds then they must be disposed of ... somewhere. We need to concentrate on reducing the use of the products and not passing the risk of disposal to another community and not our own.

Jerry F. Coleman, Levittown

<http://levittownnow.com/2014/02/03/change-venue-request-denied-rep-davis-voices-concerns/>

By Jeff Bohem February 3, 2014 0 Comments

Read More ?

Change of Venue Request Denied; State Rep. & Bensalem Voice Opposition to Proposed Incinerators

Crowds extended into the outer hallway at the last hearing about the proposed incinerators Credit: Jeff Bohem LevittownNow.com

Crowds extended into the outer hallway at the last hearing about the proposed incinerators

Credit: Jeff Bohem

LevittownNow.com

The January Bristol Township Zoning Board meeting was a standing room only event of sorts.

Attendees filled every seat, sat on the floor, in the hallway entrance of the meeting, in an attempt to watch the hearing.

Concerned citizens also sat outside on the front steps of the entrance to the municipal building viewing the meeting on tablets and laptops.

As a result of the “limited” space available, a request was made by the Delaware Keeper Network for a change of venue for February’s meeting which was denied last week by zoning board officials.

Kenneth Federman, Bristol Township Zoning Board solicitor, explained the position of the board in an e-mail.

“The current venue is the equivalent of a full size auditorium. If we take the statements of those whom have persisted in requesting that the next Board meeting be moved to a larger venue to a logical extreme, then the board would have to rent a professional sports arena or maybe something larger that would result in unnecessary taxpayer expense,” he wrote.

Federman added: “The board wishes to express that just because every citizen who may want to comment at the meeting cannot be accommodated does not mean that the board does not understand their position and their opposition.”

Maya K. van Rossum, of the Delaware River Keep Network, wasn’t impressed with the response and denial of their request.

“It’s the responsibility of the township, and board in this case, to make an informed choice on this issue, and the space doesn’t seem to accommodate the ability for full public participation,” she said.

Adding that the board’s refusal of the request is “troubling.”

“The public, regardless of how many turn out should be allowed to offer their input regardless of the side you are on with this issue,” she said. “Moreover, the township should do everything they can to accommodate public participation and the size of the current meeting place does not do that, is the environmental groups contention.”

Asked if given the opportunity to help pay for the additional fees that would be incurred for renting a larger meeting space – including the set up to broadcast the meeting live on the townships cable channel and on the internet- Van Rossum, simply said, no, that’s the townships responsibility to provide

access for the public.

Zoning Board Chair Chuck Clayton tabled the January hearing after 4.5 hours of testimony from the applicant and those in the public saying the board felt it needed more time to gather additional information from all sides and do additional research themselves.

The controversy surrounding the proposed plan of installing two incinerators has grown considerably with a Facebook Page and online petition gaining increasing numbers.

Additionally, state and local lawmakers are sounding off against the incinerators too.

Last Thursday, State Rep. Tina Davis (D-141) released a letter she penned to Bristol Township and Clayton making it clear she is against the proposed plan.

In short, Davis says she's against the idea because "this application does little to shed any light on what kind of materials will be burned at this facility, citing she is a resident of township resident and lives in Croydon. "I am deeply concerned about what kind of chemicals" the community will be "forced to breathe" by the planned incinerator, Davis wrote.

Davis also asks a question echoed by many that if the application is to move forward and approved by council "will it open the door for the company to petition the Department of Environmental Protection to burn other more hazardous materials?"

Davis also asks, "who the Route 13 Bristol Partners are and if they have experience managing such a facility does the partnership plan on managing the facility and if not, who?"

Last Monday, The Bensalem Township Council announced its opposition to the plan by passing a resolution citing a Bucks County Waterfront Redevelopment Plan which was also adopted by Bristol Borough and township, Falls, Morrisville, and Tullytown in 2004 and 2005.

Bensalem Council said they believe the emissions Route 13 Bristol Partners LC plan to burn at the site are "hazardous and dangerous" to the public.

Officials for the applicant said items such as acetone, pharmaceuticals, alcohol, pesticides and solvents could be burned at the incinerator.

Suffice to say, regardless of where the next zoning board meeting is held, the public, local and state officials have made it clear.

"Ban the Burn!"

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bensalem/bristol-township-zoners-won-t-change-venue-for-incinerator-hearing/article_3bd54c93-8a10-58b7-9861-34b8f185e08c.html

Bristol Township zoners won't change venue for incinerator hearing

1 Comments

Posted: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 3:56 pm | Updated: 6:22 am, Thu Feb 6, 2014.

By ANTHONY DIMATTIA Staff writer

Anyone who turns out for a hearing on a planned incinerator in Bristol Township will have to deal with the venue.

The township's zoning board refused a request from the nonprofit Delaware Riverkeeper Network to move the hearing to a place large enough to handle the number of people expected to attend the Feb. 24 meeting. The board said doing so would be an unnecessary cost to township taxpayers.

The request came after residents from both sides of the Delaware River jammed into the township's municipal building last month to voice their opinions about the controversial industrial materials burner that is planned between the Delaware River and Dow Chemical property near Route 413.

The hearing will be at 7 p.m. at the municipal building at 2501 Bath Road.

Representatives from Route 13 Bristol Partners LP of King of Prussia will continue the company's challenge in January of the constitutionality of the township's zoning ordinance, which doesn't include incinerators as a permitted use in manufacturing zones. They are requesting variances to build the 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, which is a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

Maya K. van Rossum, a member of the riverkeeper network, said Tuesday that the municipal building is not large enough for all residents expected to show up to voice their opinions on the proposed facility.

Chuck Clayton, chairman of the township's zoning hearing board, said residents can drop off questions and concerns about the incinerator a week before the hearing at the municipal building. Also, zoning board members will add additional seating and broadcast the hearing in the municipal building hallway to accommodate attendees, Clayton said.

"(The board) must respect everyone and that includes the applicant," he said.

In a release this week, the riverkeeper group urged residents to contact local officials and attend upcoming meetings to protest the placement of the incinerator that company representatives say would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

The group, which helps to protect rivers and watersheds in the area, argues that the incinerator does not meet local zoning codes and runs contrary to the goals of Bucks County's Delaware River Waterfront Plan and Revitalization Program. The program's 2003 study concluded that the 30-mile riverfront section from Morrisville to Bensalem should reflect a healthy balance of residential, commercial and recreational development.

"We have concerns of the impact for air, water as well as the indigenous species including endangered shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon and bald eagles and peregrine falcons," van Rossum said. "We don't believe these variances should be granted because we feel it's dangerous to the public."

Van Rossum said even without the incinerator, air quality in the region fails to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act.

"We want to make air quality better with smart decisions. The right decision is to not bring the incinerator to town," she said.

Clayton said that his board wants facts from Route 13 Bristol Partners regarding how the incinerator would affect the area before a decision is made. Also, the board has concerns over the transportation of waste in and out of the facility, he said.

"We really don't know all the hazardous material the company wants to burn at the site," he said. "I'm not taking any of this lightly, but I have to hear the applicant and see where they are at."

Under state code, the applicant must prove the facility will not be contrary to the public interest and must not be detrimental to the public welfare of the neighborhood, Clayton said.

Representatives from the company have said nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process, but at lower levels than several of the area's big businesses.

"These are all organic materials, hydrocarbon (and water) based," said Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, while testifying about the chemical portion of the plan during a meeting last month. No medical waste, radioactive materials or explosives would be accepted, he said.

The incinerator project could create 80 construction jobs and bring in an estimated \$5 million in tax revenue for the township, company representatives said.

The riverkeeper network had asked residents to attend a Bucks County commissioners meeting on Wednesday to protest the proposed site, but that meeting was canceled due to bad weather. The Bristol Township council meeting scheduled for 7 p.m., Thursday also was canceled due to a lack of business, township officials said Monday.

Residents in Bristol Township and Bristol have taken to Facebook at "Ban the Burn in Bristol" and "Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator" to protest the facility.

Bristol residents have started a petition at www.change.org to halt the proposed incinerator.

The Bristols aren't alone in their concerns. The council for neighboring Bensalem recently passed a resolution opposing the plan, as did Burlington and Mercer counties in New Jersey.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/county-should-get-involved/article_830ecca8-8dfe-5e6c-a498-cc1ef7bc55c9.html

County should get involved

8 Comments

Posted: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 6:00 am

I can understand a lot of concern about the proposed hazardous waste incinerator proposed in Bristol Township. And I appreciate columnist J.D. Mullane having taken the time to research state Rep. Frank Farry's educational and career background. I also know that more than a degree, passion is what's most important in being dedicated to accomplishing any task.

Frank is extremely passionate about public safety. I cannot believe that his role as a paid consultant on this project or political aspirations would interfere with his dedication to ensuring public safety for all Lower Bucks residents. Plus, Frank has an impeccable record as a dedicated volunteer to local emergency services.

I am also hearing the familiar Not In My Back Yard sentiment regarding the incinerator proposal. I understand the fears but if we all rely on chemical compounds then they must be disposed of somewhere. We need to concentrate on reducing the use of these chemicals and not passing the risk of disposal to another community that would face the same concerns.

I strongly urge our county commissioners task a community group in oversight of this operation.

Jerry F. Coleman

Levittown

[8 comments]

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/burlington-city-continues-costly-fight-against-pa-incinerator/article_dab51eb3-800d-519f-b15d-8a490508ec89.html

Burlington City continues costly fight against Pa. incinerator

Posted: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 6:00 pm | Updated: 3:33 pm, Wed Feb 5, 2014.

By JEANNIE O'SULLIVAN and ANTHONY DIMATTIA Staff writers

BURLINGTON CITY, N.J. - In leading the New Jersey faction in the fight against a planned incinerator across the Delaware River in Bristol Township, the city is pulling out all stops.

The municipality has spent \$35,000 on a team of experts and print advertising to highlight the potential health effects of the incinerator, which would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

That figure includes the fees of public relations agency Thomas Boyd in Mount Laurel, engineering firm T&M Associates in Moorestown, and an attorney from the law firm of former Gov. James Florio, known for his environmental advocacy during his 25-year political career. The city enlisted a planner and took out full-page ads in the Burlington County Times and its sister paper, the Bucks County Courier Times.

"Everyone seems enthusiastic about fighting the project," said Mayor James Fazzone, adding that the hope is for other riverfront towns to help with the costs.

Route 13 Bristol Partners of King of Prussia, Pa., is the company behind the plan to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

During Bristol Township's Zoning Hearing Board's lengthy meeting in January, company officials touted a potential \$5 million tax revenue windfall for the township, and experts representing the applicant said nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process, but at lower levels than several of the area's big businesses. The applicant wants variances and is challenging the constitutionality of the zoning code, which doesn't list incinerators as a permitted use in manufacturing zones.

The application was continued to the Zoning Hearing Board's next meeting, Feb. 24.

Chuck Clayton, chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board, said Tuesday that the board wants facts from Route 13 Bristol Partners regarding how the incinerator would affect the area before a decision is made. Also, the board had concerns over the transportation of waste in and out of the facility.

"We really don't know all the hazardous materials the company wants to burn at the site," Clayton said. "I'm not taking any of this lightly, but I have to hear the applicant and see where they are at."

The plan has drawn opposition from several Burlington County, N.J., towns, including Beverly, Bordentown Township, Burlington Township, Delran, Edgewater Park, Florence and Riverside. Also joining the fight is the Burlington County Board of Freeholders, which established a task force to look into the matter.

A Burlington County presence is expected at the next meetings of the Bucks County Commissioners and the Bristol Township Council, both of which postponed meetings originally scheduled for this week. The commissioners will meet Feb. 19 and the council on Feb. 20. George Saponaro, Burlington City's solicitor, said the city's experts are planning to give testimony at the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting Feb. 24.

If the application gets approved, Fazzone predicts "a bigger fight at the next level."

"I think if they pass this, I think we will be fighting it in court," the mayor said.

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February 5, 2014

Section: 00redesign

No venue change for incinerator hearing

ANTHONY DIMATTIA

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The township's zoning board refused a request from the nonprofit Delaware Riverkeeper Network to move the hearing to a place large enough to handle the number of people expected to attend the Feb. 24 meeting. The board said doing so would be an unnecessary cost to township taxpayers.

The request came after residents from both sides of the Delaware River jammed into the township's municipal building last month to voice their opinions about the controversial industrial materials burner that is planned between the Delaware River and Dow Chemical property near Route 413.

The hearing will be at 7 p.m. at the municipal building at 2501 Bath Road.

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In a release this week, the riverkeeper group urged residents to contact local officials and attend

upcoming meetings to protest the placement of the incinerator that company representatives say would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

The group, which helps to protect rivers and watersheds in the area, argues that the incinerator does not meet local zoning codes and runs contrary to the goals of Bucks County's Delaware River Waterfront Plan and Revitalization Program. The program's 2003 study concluded that the 30-mile riverfront section from Morrisville to Bensalem should reflect a healthy balance of residential, commercial and recreational development.

"We don't believe these variances should be granted because we feel it's dangerous to the public," she said. Van Rossum said even without the incinerator, air quality in the region fails to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act.

Clayton said that his board wants facts from Route 13 Bristol Partners regarding how the incinerator would affect the area before a decision is made. Also, the board has concerns over the transportation of waste in and out of the facility, he said.

Under state code, the applicant must prove the facility will not be contrary to the public interest and must not be detrimental to the public welfare of the neighborhood, Clayton said.

Representatives from the company have said nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process, but at lower levels than several of the area's big businesses.

"These are all organic materials, hydrocarbon (and water) based," said Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, while testifying about the chemical portion of the plan during a meeting last month. No medical waste, radioactive materials or explosives would be accepted, he said.

The incinerator project could create 80 construction jobs and bring in an estimated \$5 million in tax revenue for the township, company representatives said.

Residents and public officials from throughout the surrounding area have voiced their opposition.

http://www.theintell.com/opinion/editorial/burning-desire-seats-for-all/article_06333a29-4e67-5255-a9f8-039aa92873d7.html

Burning desire: Seats for all

Posted: Thursday, February 6, 2014 6:00 am | Updated: 6:58 am, Thu Feb 6, 2014.

One of the characteristics most local elected officials share is a sensitivity to the public. They rely on citizens' support at the polls to get their jobs. So once they're elected they tend to embrace the public - even if they don't really mean it.

Not so much appointed officials. Folks serving on zoning and planning boards, for example, have been placed on those boards by elected officials, not voters. So maybe that explains why Bristol Township Zoning Board members are acting like insensitive blockheads.

We refer to the board's refusal to move its next meeting to a larger venue, say a school auditorium. This would be a considerate thing to do and also wise since the Feb. 24 zoning board meeting is likely to be mobbed by hundreds of people - from both sides of the river. The council should expect the same. That's because the zoning board is considering a request to allow an incinerator in an area near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge - an area not zoned for an incinerator. And not just your run-of-the-mill trash incinerator. The proposed incinerator would burn industrial waste - such things as alcohol, cleaners, paints, pesticides, medicines, aerosols and adhesives. And it would burn about 60 tons of the stuff. Every day!

This has generated much public interest, almost all of it negative. Nobody should be surprised by this - least of all officials vested with the responsibility of deciding the plan's fate. That's because folks naturally are prejudging the proposal, concluding before the case is made that the plant will pose health and safety risks for the surrounding communities. It's human nature to worry about industrial waste trucked into your community and its ashen residue trucked back out, not to mention whatever the smokestack will release into the air.

So is it any surprise that lots of people want to hear what the developers have to say as well as ask questions or just voice their concerns? There shouldn't be. That Burlington City, N.J., has committed \$35,000 in public funds to fight the plan is a clear indication that meetings will be well attended. Likewise, organized opposition on this side of the river will spike meeting attendance as well.

And so Bristol Township officials, if they didn't plan for large crowds, should do so now. Since zoning board members don't seem to get it, township council members need to step in. They appointed the zoners and now must overrule their shortsighted appointees and work to secure an adequate venue. Citizens are entitled to participate in government regardless of where they live. In addition to Burlington, officials in neighboring Bensalem and Bristol Borough have also taken official steps to voice their opposition. Their citizens deserve a seat in the audience, too.

Like it or not, Bristol Township, you're in the spotlight. Give everybody a seat who wants a seat.

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/20140207_Incinerator_plan_to_be_considered_in_Bristol_Township.html

Incinerator plan to be considered in Bristol Township

LAST UPDATED: Friday, February 7, 2014, 1:08 AM

BUCKS COUNTY

Incinerator plan to be considered at meeting

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP The Zoning Hearing Board has rescheduled its regularly planned meeting this month. It is set to consider a proposal for a hazardous waste incinerator.

The meeting, originally scheduled for Monday, will be held Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. inside the township's municipal building on Bath Road.

The proposal has drawn the ire of residents and environmentalists in Bucks County as well as across the Delaware River in Burlington County.

The company behind the project has said it will produce jobs and add millions of dollars to the township's tax base. - Ben Finley

http://www.buckslocalnews.com/articles/2014/02/08/bristol_pilot/news/doc52f694415c207485103522.txt?viewmode=fullstory

Bristol Borough Council to vote on resolution opposing plans for industrial incinerator

Published: Saturday, February 08, 2014

By Jeff Werner

BucksLocalNews.com

BRISTOL BOROUGH – Council is expected to vote on a resolution Monday night, Feb. 10 strongly opposing plans to build a 53,000 square foot industrial incinerator on the borough's doorstep on Route 13 in neighboring Bristol Township.

"I can speak confidently that on Monday we're going to pass a resolution that says that we are against it," Councilman Greg Pezza said on Saturday. "It's a good thing for Bristol Borough to be on record publicly ... and loudly."

The resolution, said Pezza, is "similarly worded" to a resolution recently passed by Bensalem Township.

In addition, Council Vice President Robyn Trunell said the borough is considering partnering with other municipalities with legal counsel and joining in on a suit. "That's how strongly we feel," she said.

"Basically it's going to be a matter of unifying against it," said Trunell. "We just have to be bigger and stronger than the people who want to build it."

The King of Prussia-based Route 13 Partners is seeking zoning variances from Bristol Township for a facility that would burn 60 tons of industrial waste products per day. It would be located at the Bridge Business Center on George Patterson Boulevard near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

Proponents say the construction of the plant would create 80 new construction jobs, generate \$5 million in tax revenue for the township and would emit fumes at levels lower than some of the area's larger businesses. Opponents are worried about the potential for health impacts on air and water from the proposed facility.

Both Pezza and Trunell said they believe taking party status at the next Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting on Feb. 24 "is the way to go."

"We're going to discuss that on Monday," said Pezza. "At the very least, we will be sending our solicitor so we get that status. So if they approve it and it goes into the courts, we will have standing and jump in full throttle with a lawsuit."

Bristol Borough physician Dr. Melinda Ratini, who is part a grassroots movement fighting the incinerator project, is expected to attend Monday night's meeting, make a presentation and support passage of the resolution.

"That's good having someone like a medical doctor on record explaining, from her perspective, what the hazards of this could be," said Pezza.

In January, Pezza expressed “deep, deep concern” with the plan, calling it the biggest issue facing the borough in years.

Also in January, the Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator launched an online petition drive against the project deeming the creation and operation of the incinerator “a serious health risk to the residents of this community, an unwanted environmental threat to our already burdened air and water supply, and a hostile economic assault on our working class community of taxpayers, businesses and home owners.

"We take great pride in our historic town and our tight-knit community and are petitioning our government to defend our property, our town and our investment to the fullest extent of the law against private and public interests who wish to enrich themselves at the expense of our health and prosperity," reads the petition.

"We expect our elected officials - local, state and federal - to represent the will of the people of Bristol in no uncertain terms and do everything within their power to make sure the plans to build this incinerator do not come to fruition."

The petition concludes by saying, "We stand arm-in-arm with our local leaders who have already been vocal in their opposition and support council's effort to pass a resolution. We ask council to retain legal representation in this matter, request 'party status' and join the elected officials of Bensalem, Burlington and Mercer counties who have shown leadership in their efforts to oppose this looming environmental and economic threat to our communities."

The Monday, Feb. 10 meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Bristol Borough Hall. The meeting is open to the public.

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20140209_Incinerator_proposed_in_Bucks_stirs_opposition.html

Incinerator proposed in Bucks stirs opposition

Ben Finley, Inquirer Staff Writer

Posted: Sunday, February 9, 2014, 1:10 AM

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP It's a fight that Pennsylvania hasn't seen since the 1990s: A company proposes to build a commercial hazardous-waste incinerator, and residents and environmentalists mobilize to stop it.

The battle was reignited last month in Bristol Township, Bucks County, where plans were unveiled for a 50,000-square-foot plant to burn pesticides, pharmaceuticals, and other waste within a mile of the Delaware and densely populated towns.

Allen Toadvine, a lawyer for Route 13 Bristol Partners, the firm behind the project, declined to name its financial backers or describe its business plan. But an officer for the company told township officials the plant would add \$5 million in tax revenue and 100 jobs while operating safely under tough emissions regulations.

Opponents contend toxic substances would still escape into the air, and say they fear damage from accidents or violations.

Among those who have already balked at the proposal are the Burlington County freeholders in New Jersey, who passed a resolution asking Bristol Township to reject the project.

And Burlington City hired the law firm of former New Jersey Gov. Jim Florio to fight the burner.

"The fact is the winds blow from west to east, and that's not brain surgery," Florio said in an interview.

If the project receives final approval from state regulators - a years-long and unpredictable process - it would be Pennsylvania's first strictly commercial hazardous-waste incinerator, welcoming in trucks hauling drums of the material.

The last one to open in the United States was 20 years ago in Ohio, although another burner is under construction in the Southern United States, according to industry experts.

The proposal in Bristol Township has revived the debate over the need for commercial plants. Experts say commercial incineration could make a comeback because of growth in the petroleum and natural gas industries, which produce much of the nation's hazardous waste. But persuading regulators to issue a permit remains a challenge when alternatives exist for treatment and disposal.

"It doesn't mean a slew of new permits will be approved," said Barbara Noverini, an equity analyst with the investment research firm Morningstar.

State corporation records show King of Prussia-based Route 13 Bristol Partners formed last May. On Feb. 24, the firm will seek a variance from the township's zoning hearing board, the first of many steps. Final approval would come from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Residents, town officials, and environmentalists from both sides of the river began fighting the project almost immediately.

"No matter what the regulations are, nobody can guarantee that dioxins and heavy metals and other toxic materials will not be part of the emissions from this facility," said Louis Cappelli Jr., a lawyer hired by Burlington City to fight the project.

Another opponent, Richard Heierling, 85, who lives in Croydon, said: "With any kind of industrial process, generally speaking, things run well. And when things don't run well, it could be a disaster. I understand that you've got to put things somewhere. But I'm not sure it's a good idea to put it in such a densely populated area."

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has determined that its standards for limiting emissions from hazardous incinerators are "generally protective of human health and the environment," the agency said in a statement. The agency is in the process of reexamining those rules, which could become more strict.

John Schert, executive director of the University of Florida's Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management, said hazardous-waste incinerators are heavily regulated and generally have good compliance records.

"Their compliance record is a big deal to them," he said. "They want to stay in business."

Commercial incinerators proliferated in the 1980s after Washington passed several laws regulating the storage and disposal of hazardous waste, prompting as many as 100 to open up.

Since then, chemical companies began to change their operations to create less waste, or they built their own private incinerators. Tougher environmental laws made commercial endeavors more expensive. And states handed out fewer permits.

In the early 1990s, two companies applied for permits to build facilities in Pennsylvania, and each met resistance from citizens and the DEP. Both firms eventually gave up, citing economics.

One was proposed for Union County, in central Pennsylvania. Locals placed anti-incinerator signs along the highways.

The other incinerator was proposed for Clarion County, near Pittsburgh, by Conrail and an Ohio-based company. Protestors burned state and company officials in effigy.

Nationwide, the last one to be built was in East Liverpool, Ohio, near the Pennsylvania border, in the early 1990s, according to Mel Keener, executive director for the Coalition for Responsible Waste Incineration, a trade group. That project drew protests and opposition from then-Vice President Al Gore.

Eight sites in the country now operate commercial hazardous-waste incinerators, most in the Midwest and South, according to EPA data.

The number could grow again, although several factors could affect the commercial viability of such a project, Keener said.

"The chemical industry is rebuilding, and you cannot produce something without producing waste,"

Keener said.

But he added: "There is a very high barrier to entry for anything new."

bfinley@phillynews.com

610-313-8118

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/levittown/davis-joins-fray-in-fight-against-incinerator/article_ee1a97f0-8d05-5a1f-9973-e7c24c1551fe.html

Davis joins fray in fight against incinerator

1 Comments

Posted: Sunday, February 9, 2014 12:00 am | Updated: 7:13 am, Mon Feb 10, 2014.

By ANTHONY DIMATTIA Staff writer

A planned industrial incinerator in Bristol Township is now facing opposition from a state lawmaker.

In a recent letter, Tina Davis, D-141, of Bristol Township, urged the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board to reject a proposed incinerator that would burn 60 tons per day of alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge because of concerns of the adverse environmental effects the site would cause to the township. Davis was also wary that the facility would operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, according to an application filed with the state.

"As the state representative for Bristol Township and a Croydon resident I am deeply concerned about what kind of chemicals my family, our neighbors and their children will be forced to breathe," Davis said.

Route 13 Bristol Partners of King of Prussia wants to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, according to the application filed with Bristol Township.

The company is requesting variances to operate the incinerator, which is not among the permitted uses listed in Bristol Township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It is also challenging the validity of the zoning ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

The company will go before the zoning hearing board for a second time at 7 p.m. on Feb. 24 inside the township's municipal building at 2501 Bath Road. The first meeting on Jan. 13 was adjourned without a decision from the board.

Davis argues that the application "does little to shed any light on what kind of materials will be burned at this facility." Also, a zoning change could open the door for a petition to the Department of Environmental Protection to allow the company to burn other, more hazardous materials in the future, she said.

"I believe the zoning hearing board and the community deserve to know specifically what will be burning on that site," she said.

Chuck Clayton, chairman of the zoning hearing board, said last month that the board wanted facts from Route 13 Bristol Partners regarding how the incinerator would affect the area before a decision would be made. Also, the board had concerns over the transportation of waste in and out of the facility.

"We really don't know all the hazardous materials the company wants to burn at the site," Clayton said. "I'm not taking any of this lightly, but I have to hear the applicant and see where they are at."

Representatives from the company have said nitrous and sulfur dioxides would be emitted during the burning process, but at lower levels than several of the area's big businesses.

"These are all organic materials, hydrocarbon (and water) based," said Mike Logan, owner of Compliance Plus in Hatboro, while testifying about the chemical portion of the plan during last month's meeting. No medical waste, radioactive materials or explosives would be accepted, he said.

The plan is subject to approval from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as well as the Pennsylvania and federal environmental protection departments, and must meet rigorous air quality standards. The permitting process could take nine months to two years, Logan said.

Yet, Davis said the proposed facility near the Dow Chemical site off Route 413 does not fit plans to develop the Delaware River waterfront into a mixture of houses, small shops and restaurants.

"I am committed to bringing quality jobs to Bristol Township. However I do not believe that this is the right kind of economic development for Bristol Township, especially as we are striving to enhance the waterfront area, not destroy it," she said.

Representatives for the company have said the incinerator project could create 80 construction jobs and bring in an estimated \$5 million in tax revenue for the township.

Davis also questioned the ambiguity of the company's owners and how they would manage the site.

"Are (13 Bristol Partners) the ones that would be managing the site on a daily basis? If so what is their experience with this type of facility? If they are not going to be managing the site then who will be? Do they have experience with these types of facilities?" she asked.

Residents in Bristol Township and Bristol have taken to Facebook at "Ban the Burn in Bristol" and "Bristol Campaign to Block the Incinerator" to protest the facility.

Bristol residents have started a petition at www.change.org to halt the proposed incinerator.

The Bristols aren't alone in their concerns. The council for neighboring Bensalem recently passed a resolution opposing the plan, as did Burlington and Mercer counties in New Jersey.

http://www.theintell.com/news/local/bristol-council-opposes-incinerator/article_ad4823a2-0b5f-5ae5-aba3-122737f418b6.html

Bristol council opposes incinerator

Posted: Monday, February 10, 2014 9:49 pm | Updated: 2:59 pm, Tue Feb 11, 2014.

By Gema Maria Duarte Staff Writer

BRISTOL - The Bristol council approved a three-page resolution that opposes the proposed incinerator in Bristol Township.

Community members against the project arrived at the meeting carrying signs and wearing white T-shirts that read "No Incinerator."

Before the vote on the resolution, Bristol resident Melinda Murray Ratini, who is a physician, spoke on the negative impact that an incinerator could have on the community.

"I believe that this hazardous waste incinerator would be a disaster for our community and that we need to work together as a town to fight this blatant environmental and social injustice," she said, adding that an incinerator is a health risk.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/bristol-council-opposes-incinerator/article_50b2548f-0576-5666-a226-333760beac67.html

Bristol council opposes incinerator

3 Comments

Posted: Monday, February 10, 2014 9:49 pm | Updated: 2:59 pm, Tue Feb 11, 2014.

By Gema Maria Duarte Staff Writer

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/bl-bristol-council/image_264ac054-6729-5694-90d7-c084b8900e4e.html

Gema Maria Duarte / staff | Posted: Monday, February 10, 2014 9:59 pm

Photo - signs

Residents protested a proposed incinerator at Monday night's Bristol council meeting.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/bl-bristol-council/image_06568189-fde3-5ee9-8a14-09cbdca7dad8.html

Gema Maria Duarte / staff | Posted: Monday, February 10, 2014 10:01 pm

Photo - t-shirts

Residents protested a proposed incinerator at Monday night's Bristol council meeting.

<http://www.philly.com/philly/blogs/bucksinq/The-proposed-incinerator-and-jobs-.html>

POSTED: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014, 3:17 PM

We only had so much space Sunday to delve into the interesting issues surrounding the proposed hazardous waste incinerator in Bristol Township. But one worth expanding on is jobs.

Looking at the issue from a distance, the proposal could be another indication that the U.S. manufacturing sector is improving. As we noted in the story, a new incinerator of this kind hasn't been built in the United States in 20 years, although one is under construction in the southern U.S.

The number of incinerators dwindled over the last 20 years for several reasons, including increased government regulations and firms making an effort to produce less hazardous waste. But another contributing factor to the decline of incinerators was that some American manufacturing firms - and the hazardous waste they produce - moved overseas, taking the incinerators with them, experts said.

Manufacturing jobs are now beginning to see an uptick in the United States. And the reason industry experts believe a firm would want to build a commercial hazardous waste incinerator in the U.S. is because of the projected growth in the country's petroleum and natural gas industries, which produce a fair share of the country's hazardous waste.

The company behind the Bristol Township proposal has promised 80 construction jobs and 100 workers once the plant is fully operational. That's not to mention \$5 million in tax revenue for the township.

"I think the message people fail to understand about [the hazardous waste management] industry is that it supports a huge cross section of American manufacturing and in doing so, they're helping jobs stay here," said Cary Perket, principal director of The Envirobiz Group, a consulting and research firm based in California.

But the growing number of people and local towns who oppose the incinerator are more concerned about the potential environmental impact of such a plant in the densely populated suburbs and near the Delaware River.

As we mentioned in the story, one concern is that EPA standards still allow for very small amounts of toxins to escape into the air, although the agency considers incinerators to be safe.

Another concern is the potential for a disaster, although experts say operators of these facilities often try to follow the federal government's strict regulations.

"They should not be built in areas that are dense in population and environmentally sensitive," said Louis Cappelli Jr., an attorney representing Burling City, N.J. which sits directly across the river from the proposed site.

"It's a disaster waiting to happen," he said.

http://www.buckslocalnews.com/articles/2014/02/10/bristol_pilot/news/doc52d6ab4ef1f82879639723.txt

Bristol Borough voices 'deep, deep concern' over plans for incinerator in neighboring Bristol Township

Published: Monday, February 10, 2014

By Jeff Werner;
BucksLocalNews.com

BRISTOL BOROUGH – Bristol Borough is voicing “deep concern” over plans by Route 13 Bristol Partners of King of Prussia for an incinerator just beyond its borders at the Bridge Business Center at 370 and 390 George Patterson Boulevard.

Calling it one of the biggest issues facing the borough in years, Councilman Greg Pezza expressed "deep, deep concern" over the proposal at Monday night's borough council meeting.

"I do not claim to be an expert on the environment or the laws regulating such a thing," admitted Pezza. "I don't know what an industrial waste incinerator necessarily means, but my instincts tell me it's not going to be good.

"It's going to take a lot for me to say that's going to be good for Bristol," said Pezza. "I have deep, deep concerns about what that incinerator will be. I have deep concerns that Bristol Township is silent about it considering they are going to reap all of the tax benefits and the only thing we're going to reap are smoke stacks spewing industrial waste."

The borough sent its zoning officer, Sally Bellaspica, to Monday night's zoning hearing board meeting in Bristol Township to deliver a public statement asking that its neighbor “consider both the environmental and the traffic impact" the incinerator could have upon neighboring residents.

The proposed 50,000 square foot incinerator would burn 60 tons of industrial waste products per day.

Proponents say the construction of the plant would create 80 new construction jobs, generate \$5 million in tax revenue for the township and would emit fumes at levels lower than some of the area's larger businesses.

In the borough's statement, read by Bellaspica at the meeting, the borough reminded the zoning board of a lightning strike at the neighboring Dow Chemical site in May 2012 that ignited a tank and sent noxious fumes into the air affecting the residents of the borough's West Ward and forcing the emergency closure of borough schools.

“Those residents are in close proximity to this incinerator project, and in fact live closer than most of the residents of Bristol Township,” said Bellaspica, reading from the statement.

“The borough would ask that you consider the exact nature of the particulates which will be released by the incinerator, and the potential health hazards related to those particulates,” Bellaspica told the zoning board. “Also, since the borough draws its drinking water from the Delaware River, we would also ask that you consider the affect which any storm water runoff would have upon the river.

“Additionally,” said Bellaspica, “the borough is concerned about the traffic impact from the numerous trucks delivering the waste to the facility, and the trucks which will be removing any residue from the facility.

“In the event this application is granted, the Borough of Bristol would ask that you restrict truck traffic on Route 13 and 413, and prohibit any truck traffic from North Radcliffe Street, Radcliffe Street, Green Lane and Bath Road,” said Bellaspica.

The incinerator proposal has already generated significant opposition from the New Jersey side of the Delaware.

The Common Council of the City of Burlington, N.J., the County Freeholders and several neighboring municipalities have passed resolutions urging the zoning board to consider the negative impact the incinerator would have on the residents of Burlington County and “summarily reject” the application.

Monday night’s zoning board meeting adjourned without a decision. The board will resume the hearing in February.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/opinion/letters/reject-the-bristol-incinerator-to-protect-our-water/article_abf67434-df64-5cd0-912a-159a912c76ed.html

Reject the Bristol incinerator to protect our water

Posted: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:00 am

What is happening in West Virginia should be a wake-up call for the country. Toxic chemicals spewed above the water intake for residents of West Virginia, contaminating their water supply. The water supply for 6 million people could be at risk if a proposed toxic incinerator in Bristol Township, Pa., is built. This incinerator would be located along the Delaware River, putting the water supply for Philadelphia, Burlington and Camden counties at risk.

This incinerator will not only pollute the air of local communities, but could pollute their water supplies as well. Chemicals will be transported from this site by truck, which, if there was an accident or spill, could spew into the Delaware River. Also, chemicals will be stored in tanks on-site, just as in West Virginia. If the tanks were to leak, they could spill right into the river, resulting in a disaster similar to the one in West Virginia. Tides could also push chemicals into Trenton's water supply intake, threatening the public's drinking water.

Riverfronts should be for the people and to revitalize communities, not for a toxic incinerator. If anything were to happen on this site, it would have detrimental impacts on the environment and the Delaware River. The horrific situation in West Virginia should be a deterrent for Bristol officials. Putting a toxic plant along any waterway is dangerous to our environment and communities. I urge Bristol officials to reject this proposal and protect people's water.

Nicole Dallara
Outreach coordinator
New Jersey Sierra Club

<http://www.kevinstrouse.com/news/kevin-strouse-takes-stand-against-proposed-hazardous-waste-incinerator-in-bristol-township>

Kevin Strouse Takes Stand Against Proposed Hazardous Waste Incinerator in Bristol Township

0 Comment(s) | Posted February 11, 2014

Bristol, PA – Tuesday, February 11, 2014 – 8th District Congressional Candidate Kevin Strouse announced his opposition to the proposed hazardous waste incinerator in Bristol Township.

Strouse cited the environmental risk of opening a hazardous waste incinerator in such a densely populated area, “As a Bensalem resident, I have serious concerns about how the proposed hazardous waste incinerator would negatively impact the safety and quality of life for residents of Bucks County.”

The proposed incinerator would likely be used to burn pharmaceutical materials and other hazardous waste that cannot be easily disposed of. There are only two similar incinerators east of the Mississippi River—both of which are in sparsely populated regions.

“I got into this race because every day when I get my kids ready for school I think about what kind of future they will have—and that includes growing up with clean air to breathe, and free from the potential disaster waiting to happen by placing such a toxic waste incinerator in a densely populated community.”

Given who stands to profit from building the proposed incinerator, it’s no surprise Congressman Fitzpatrick has been silent on the issue. One of Congressman Fitzpatrick’s largest campaign donors is one of the project’s partners.

“Congressman Fitzpatrick’s silence on the proposed hazardous waste incinerator is deafening. One of Fitzpatrick’s biggest donors would stand to make a lot of money by burning hazardous waste just down the road from where our children play—and that money will wind up right back in Congressman Fitzpatrick’s campaign account. Families in the 8th District deserve a representative who will fight for what’s best for all our families, and not stand aside while their rich friends reap enormous profits while risking the safety of the air our children breathe.”

UPDATE - Meanwhile, the League of Conservation Voters announced today their grade for Congressman Fitzpatrick’s record on the environment, rating him with a score of only 25%.

This is only the most recent example of Congressman Fitzpatrick putting personal gain and partisan politics ahead of the best interests of the people of the 8th district. From shutting down the government, to voting for the sequester that forced Lockheed Martin to shutter its Newtown plant, Congressman Fitzpatrick has shown that his priorities are vastly out of sync with the people of Bucks County.

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/vent/the-vent-for-feb/article_00807611-b542-5526-bd21-453e10a306b0.html

The Vent for Feb. 11

Posted: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 6:00 am

I don't know about Rep. Farry's impeccable volunteer record and I also don't know that he's qualified to declare the incinerator project safe. I do know he was less than open about his identity at the zoning board meeting. Typical politician.

Ed Barford, Fairless Hills

<http://levittownnow.com/2014/02/11/state-representative-bristol-council-come-out-against-planned-incinerators/>

By Jeff Bohem & Tom Sofield February 11, 2014 0 Comments

State Representative & Bristol Council Come Out Against Planned Incinerators

BristolIncinerator

Residents against the incinerators at Monday's meeting in Bristol.

Credit: Tom Sofield/LevittownNow.com.

The fight to ensure that proposed incinerators do not pass the smell test for Bristol Township Zoning Board continued with State Rep. John Galloway and Bristol Borough Council joining in.

State Rep. John Galloway said recently that citizens of his district, which includes Falls, Tullytown and Bristol Borough, have come to him in opposition of the proposed plan by Route 13 Bristol Partners LP to construct an industrial hazardous waste burner near the Delaware River in Bristol Township.

Citizens have called to voice their concern, Galloway said. "I'm in agreement with them. It's not the right location for that sort of business," he said. It's right in the middle of a community where there are families, schools, other businesses."

Galloway said he realizes the planned incinerators are in State Rep. Tina Davis' district but has many of the same concerns Davis voiced earlier this month to LevittownNow.com.

Echoing Galloway's stance, Bristol Borough Councilman Gregg Pezza said he is also opposed to the application that now sits before the Bristol Township Zoning Board.

Pezza was behind the motion opposing the proposed waste incinerators that passed at Monday night's council meeting. He said he worked with several local residents to get three-page resolution passed.

Dr. Melinda Murray Ratini, a Bristol resident, said Monday night that the incinerator would have adverse health impacts the proposed incinerator could have if built along the Delaware River.

Ratini said she watched the testimony given during the last Bristol Township Zoning Board meeting where the incinerator was discussed. She said she found the information provided "misleading and, quite frankly, very insulting."

The doctor, who boasts a resume solid with experience in her field, said the people behind the incinerators may claim it is safe, but the only safe incinerator is one with zero emissions, which is impossible. She listed birth defects, cancer, developmental issues and skin problems all as side effects of the chemicals burn in incinerators.

"Beyond the obvious health, environmental and property value concerns, the incinerator will virtually destroy the potential for eco-friendly development as laid out in the Bucks County Waterfront Revitalization Plan. The plan was developed in 2005 for the County Commissioners, the Redevelopment Authority and every riverfront municipality from Morrisville to Bensalem. It most certainly did not provide for a hazardous waste incinerator. This flies in the face of our economic development efforts," Pezza said.

Moreover, Pezza also pointed the potential for economic benefits Bristol Township might experience as

a result passing the ordinance request.

“With regard to the estimated eighty temporary construction jobs the incinerator will create, we are very sensitive to job creation projects, but this project is short-sighted because, in the long run, it will cost construction jobs that would be created if the revitalization plan is implemented,” he said.

Galloway did have some interesting thoughts about incinerators in general, saying the business exists for a reason – “there is a need and we have to recognize that this business exists for a reason”, he said. “It’s to get rid of this type of industrial waste and the question becomes if not here then where?”

Galloway added: “I don’t trust third-world countries to burn the waste with the surrounding environment or people in mind.” He added that he is dead set against the idea in Bristol Township.

Sources close to the zoning board have said it is continuing in its due diligence in terms of researching the issue before making its final decision.

Zoning Board chair Chuck Clayton tabled the last meeting because, he said at the time, he wanted to hear more information from both sides of the issue.

“I have to listen to the concerns of all involved” Clayton said, “before making a final decision.”

Sources close to the Bristol Township Council said over the weekend: “there is no way council passes this. We don’t want it here”

“In projects such as these, where the negative environmental and economic impact transcends municipal boundaries, the voices of surrounding communities must be heard,” Pezza said before Bristol Council passed a three-page resolution on Monday night that he was against the incinerators.

Dr. Melinda Murray Ratini, a Bristol resident, was among a number of other attendees at the meeting wearing tee shirts expressing their opposition to the plan said she found the information provided “misleading and, quite frankly, very insulting.”

Bristol resident Kevin McCloskey is working against the incinerator and said he wonders where Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick stands on the issues. He said he also wants to know the individuals behind the incinerator plans, which, so far, is a mystery.

“Those who are telling you how safe the incinerators are do not build them near their own houses or in their own communities. They want to build them in ours. And this is totally irresponsible and reprehensible,” Ratini said.

“In projects such as these, where the negative environmental and economic impact transcends municipal boundaries, the voices of surrounding communities must be heard,” Pezza said before Monday’s council meeting.

The Delaware Keeper Network sent out a press release encouraging residents of the area to attend the Bucks County Commissioners Meeting, Bristol Township Council meeting and the zoning board meeting scheduled to be held on February 24 at 7 p.m. Moreover they have asked locals to write their elected state and federal officials voicing their opposition to the planned incinerators.

An online petition, a Facebook page, New Jersey, Bensalem Twp. Council, State Rep's Davis and Galloway and now Bristol Council have all come out against plan to build the incinerators in Bristol Township, among a host of other groups and citizens in the region.

“This hazardous waste incinerator would be a disaster for our community and that we need to work together as a town to fight this blatant environmental and social injustice,” Ratini said.

On February 24, the Bristol Twp. Zoning Board will make its decision known.

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/bristol-council-opposes-incinerator/article_9be108c2-2d19-5688-9eb4-7a9f66fa7efd.html

Bristol council opposes incinerator

Posted: Monday, February 10, 2014 9:49 pm | Updated: 3:00 pm, Tue Feb 11, 2014.

By Gema Maria Duarte Staff Writer

BRISTOL, Pa. - The Borough Council approved a three-page resolution that opposes the proposed hazardous waste incinerator in Bristol Township.

Community members against the project arrived at Monday's meeting carrying signs and wearing white T-shirts that read "No Incinerator."

Before the vote on the resolution, borough resident Melinda Murray Ratini, a physician, spoke on the negative impact that an incinerator could have on the community.

"I believe that this hazardous waste incinerator would be a disaster for our community and that we need to work together as a town to fight this blatant environmental and social injustice," Murray Ratini said, adding that an incinerator is a health risk.

Route 13 Bristol Partners of King of Prussia, Pa., proposes to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard in the Bridge Business Center, a commercial park in a heavy manufacturing zone near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

The company's application has been continued to the township Zoning Hearing Board's Feb. 24 meeting.

http://www.centraljersey.com/articles/2014/02/14/the_register_news/news/doc52fbb629f27d2811777865.txt

FLORENCE: Council objects to Bristol incinerator

If ultimately approved, the application by Route 33 Bridge Partners LP would pave the way for a 50,000-square-foot hazardous waste incinerator along the Delaware River.

DATE POSTED: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 4:01 PM EST

by Amy Batista, Special Writer

FLORENCE — The Township Council went on official record objecting to a proposed hazardous waste incinerator being considered by the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board across the Delaware River in Pennsylvania.

The governing body made its formal objection during the Feb. 5 council meeting.

According to published reports, the Bristol Township Zoning Board will continue to consider the proposal at a meeting Feb. 24.

If ultimately approved, the application by Route 33 Bridge Partners LP would pave the way for a 50,000-square-foot hazardous waste incinerator along the Delaware River.

”I just want to let the public know that the Florence Township will be opposing the incinerator that is going to be attempted to be made in Bristol Township,” said Councilman Jerry Sandusky.

”Florence Township is opposed to the hazardous waste incinerator for the same reason so many other townships are against the proposal,” said Mr. Richard Brook, township administrator.

”It is a potential liability that will impact the quality of life for residents,” Mr. Brook added. “Who wants a hazardous waste incinerator so close to where they live and commute? The concerns are numerous, and it is surprising that the state of Pennsylvania has not been more vocal in examining this proposal in detail.

”The residents of Pennsylvania should be concerned and we are hopeful that Bristol Township will defend the rights of their residents and all people who live in both sides of the Delaware River,” Mr. Brook added. “The environment should be preserved for all people, and for generations to come.”

The mayor and Township Council initially expressed opposition to the proposed incinerator in December, Mr. Brook noted.

Mr. Brook said that other communities along the Delaware River will be impacted in addition to Burlington City.

He further called proposal a “callous application designed to engage in an activity that could leave residents in both states vulnerable.”

”Those of us who work in public service have an obligation to do what is best for residents of our respective communities,” Mr. Brook said. “There is no amount of money that should sway a municipality to approve a proposal that could have environmental consequences for residents. That is contrary to our responsibility as public servants.”

Mr. Brook additionally said he feels that the incinerator is being proposed with no regard for the wellbeing of the residents and the residents should be “outraged.”

”The residents of Pennsylvania should be outraged that an entity formed within the past year or so is proposing a hazardous waste incinerator with no regard for the wellbeing of residents in Pennsylvania or New Jersey,” Mr. Brook said.

He compared the situation to the “unfortunate families in West Virginia who are dealing with a chemical spill that has impacted their drinking water and daily lives.”

”This proposal could have the same potential effect,” he said. “Residents have a right to be concerned not only about their own health and quality of life, but also about the quality of life for their children. Not only now, but in the future.”

Resident John Lauricella said he was pleased that the council joined with the other communities in the in opposing the incinerator.

”I’m glad that you are going to oppose that incinerator,” said Mr. Lauricella. “Are we are joining with the other communities to have one attorney represent New Jersey and just pay our share?”

”We are all working together,” Mayor Craig Wilkie responded, specifically referring to shared services.

Mr. Brook was not certain what other towns have opposed the incinerator in Burlington County as of press time.

”I have not heard of a town along the river in New Jersey that is not opposing the hazardous waste incinerator,” Mr. Brook said. “At this point, each township has to decide if it will help cover the cost of fighting this specific zoning application. I do know that Edgewater, Burlington City and Florence Township are committed.”

Burlington City Solicitor George Saponaro and former Gov. James J. Florio are representing the city’s interests.

”Mr. Saponaro is working closely with Mr. Florio & Perrucci on this matter,” said Lisa Schiller, is on the administrative staff of Burlington City on Feb. 10.

The move by the Florence Township Council comes nearly a month after the Bordentown Township Committee adopted a similar resolution against the incinerator.

http://www.buckslocalnews.com/articles/2014/02/12/bristol_pilot/news/doc52fba8e134eea894762070.txt?viewmode=fullstory

Bristol Borough Council unanimously adopts resolution opposing industrial waste incinerator

Published: Wednesday, February 12, 2014

By Jeff Werner

BucksLocalNews.com

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BRISTOL BOROUGH – The Borough Council on Monday night unanimously approved a resolution strongly opposing the construction and operation of an industrial waste and materials incinerator on Route 13 in neighboring Bristol Township.

The King of Prussia-based Route 13 Partners is seeking zoning variances from Bristol Township for a facility that would burn 60 tons of industrial waste products per day, including alcohols and solvents, cleaners, paints, medicines and pharmaceuticals, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives. It would be located at the Bridge Business Center near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

“Every member of this council is 100 percent against the incinerator. I think this resolution is going to make that clear,” said Councilman Greg Pezza.

In its resolution, the borough cites the “hazardous and dangerous nature” of the plant’s emissions, its location less than a mile from an elementary school, additional truck traffic and its inconsistency with the vision of the Bucks County Waterfront Redevelopment plan as its reasons for opposing the project.

In addition, the resolution authorizes the borough’s solicitor to attend the Feb. 24 Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting in opposition to the application and to request party status.

Party status would allow the borough to participate in any appeal that may follow the decision, said borough solicitor William Salerno.

Whatever the outcome, the borough’s lawyer said be prepared for a lengthy process that could take several months or several years.

“If the zoning board denies the application, there’s a good chance the applicant is going to walk away,” surmised Salerno.

In the event they prevail in zoning, he said there will be an appeal. Plus, he said, the plan would still have to go back to Bristol Township Council for land development in addition to all of the permits that are required.

“It’s very unlikely this is going to be resolved over a short period of time unless the applicant withdraws,” said Salerno.

Council President Ralph DiGuseppe said when the borough learned about the plan from councilwoman Betty Rodriguez, it directed its zoning officer to attend the zoning hearing board

meeting and to deliver the borough's concerns to the board.

"I personally feel that eventually there's going to be a withdrawal," he said, agreeing with Salerno.

During public comment, Dr. Melinda Ratini called the incinerator plan a "grave and serious threat to the health and welfare of our town.

"Route 13 Partners cannot tell us how much toxins will come out of their stacks, because they don't know what type of incinerator they are going to build, and they don't even know (or at least they will not admit) what exactly will be burned in the incinerator - except to say that it will be hazardous waste," said Ratini.

"Those who are telling you how safe the new incinerators are do not build them near their own houses or in their own communities," she continued. "They want to build them in ours. And this is totally irresponsible and reprehensible.

"I believe that this hazardous waste incinerator would be a disaster for our community and that we need to work together as a town to fight this blatant environmental and social injustice."

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/environmental-justice-for-all/article_d0685229-5452-507d-912a-de92de24cd91.html

Environmental justice for all

Posted: Thursday, February 13, 2014 6:00 am

In response to Mr. Coleman's letter, "It has to go somewhere."

Rather than a "Not in My Backyard" issue, this is a "No more in my backyard" issue. The EPA's Enviromapper online clearly shows that our community has already received more than our burden of other people's waste. Yes. Everyone needs to reduce the use of natural resources and decrease waste, but the issue here is an industrial hazardous chemical waste incinerator that will be located within about a mile of homes, schools, a hospital, nursing homes and businesses. As a physician who has practiced in Bristol Borough for almost 30 years, I am deeply concerned for the health, welfare, and vitality of the community in which I live and work.

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http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/environmental-justice-for-all/article_d0685229-5452-507d-912a-de92de24cd91.html

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In response to President Clinton's Executive Order No. 12898 on Environmental Justice, then EPA Administrator Carol Browner made the following timeless statement:

"All Americans deserve to be protected from pollution -- not just those who can afford to live in the cleanest, safest communities. All Americans deserve clean air, pure water, land that is safe to live on, food that is safe to eat."

I am calling on all of our elected officials and government agencies to protect the rights of our community -- environmental justice for all.

Melinda Ratini, D.O.

Bristol

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/opinion/vent/the-vent-for-feb/article_5656d9d6-3875-5d6e-a564-4256cdab5ff1.html

The Vent for Feb. 14

18 Comments

Posted: Friday, February 14, 2014 6:00 am

I am sure state Rep. Frank Farry, with his diligence for public safety, would not mind putting an industrial waste incinerator in Middletown where he lives and which he represents. Knowing incinerator developer Pat Deon and Frank Farry are looking out for our best interest, I believe is suspect to say the least.

Tom Harris, Bristol Township

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/columnists/jd-mullane/state-rep-no-conflict-in-incinerator-deal/article_0911be64-e09a-5eb9-9267-eb75b30c1aab.html

State rep: no conflict in incinerator deal

2 Comments

Posted: Thursday, January 16, 2014 1:30 am | Updated: 1:45 am, Thu Jan 16, 2014.

By J.D. Mullane

Among those testifying on behalf of placing an industrial waste incinerator in Bristol Township, Pa., was Frank Farry, a Republican state representative from the 142nd District, next door to Bristol Township.

The lawmaker has been hired as a safety consultant by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP, which wants to build the waste burner near the Dow Chemical plant, near the Delaware River, near Burlington City. Farry told the Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board last Monday that he has reviewed the proposal and that it is completely safe. There will even be tours for kids, he said.

Farry based his opinion on expertise from his career in emergency management in Bucks County, which is long and distinguished. He has been chief of the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Co. for 14 years.

But as Allen Toadvine, the lawyer representing Route 13 Bridge Partners, asked Farry to list his credentials for members of the Bristol board, one credential he didn't mention to the standing-room-only crowd is that he is an elected Pennsylvania lawmaker.

"None of my (obligations) as a state representative plays a role in this, which is why none of that was raised," Farry told me.

Of course, he said, had anyone asked, he would have said he is an elected state rep.

"I didn't really say I was a lawyer, either. You don't want to confuse (the board about) who the attorney for the project is, and I would rather not confuse the Zoning Hearing Board on what my role is."

Which is strictly as a safety adviser. He didn't say how much he's being paid. He did say that Republican heavyweight and beer distributor Pat Deon is one of the project's partners. Deon didn't return my call last week to see how much he is paying Farry.

The arrangement seems cozy, but Farry assured me that his involvement is strictly in the interest of public safety. He even ran his relationship as a consultant on the incinerator project by the state Ethics Commission, which, he told me, said it raises no worries about conflict of interest.

"I thoroughly vetted it," he said.

But because Harrisburg is a place where a phone call from an elected official to the right bureaucrat can get things done (like state DEP approvals for controversial projects), I asked Farry if he intended to dial the right people on behalf of Pat Deon.

He was emphatic: Absolutely not.

"I'm not going to compromise my career as a public official for one project for one company," Farry

said. "If a project like this is going in, the public is going to be opposed. I know that. But I would hope the public would know everything I'm doing is for the interest of the public safety. I can make this place safer."

State Rep. Tina Davis, who represents Bristol Township, said she was caught off guard by her colleague's involvement.

"We were just passing by each other in the Capitol a couple of weeks ago, and Frank came over to me, saying he had a company he was bringing into the township. He didn't elaborate, though," she recalled.

Before she was elected to the Legislature, Davis served on the Township Council. She said there was an agreement among the communities along the Delaware River to develop land in ways that would make it a draw for people to enjoy the natural beauty of the riverfront.

"We wanted to see better things in our community, and all of the communities have abided by that agreement. I'm for economic development," Davis said, "I'm just not sure this is the best place for an incinerator."

Bristol Township will decide if Route 13 Bridge Partners gets the zoning change it needs to build the incinerator, which would burn 60 tons of industrial waste daily, sending the plume over Lower Bucks and as far as Burlington City, whose citizens oppose it.

Davis, as a state official, has no say over how the township decides. She is aware that some of her constituents packed the zoning board hearing. Some were left standing.

"With something like this, that affects so many people, I would suggest the zoning board move its next meeting to another venue," she said.

They are going to need a bigger room.

http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/communities/bristol/incinerator-intentionally-placed-in-low-income-area/article_90ac56b6-f4f4-59db-9e0f-fc99f0d60250.html

Environmental discrimination

Incinerator intentionally placed in low-income area

3 Comments

Posted: Sunday, February 16, 2014 6:00 am

By GREG PEZZA

As a Bristol Borough councilman who stands with others in opposition to the proposed industrial waste incinerator in Bristol Township, I'd like to explore more deeply three areas that have not been fully addressed in the current controversy: environmental concerns, jobs and the revenue.

Environmental concerns : I've been approached by medical professionals, naturalists, realtors, mothers, outdoorsmen, constituents of all kinds, who oppose the project. Their protest isn't prompted by hysteria or alarmism. It is prompted by common sense, a knowledge of environmental history and a growing frustration that the area of Bucks County south of Route 1 is regarded with a different standard than the rest of the county.

A case can be made that the incinerator proposal represents a form of environmental discrimination, a contention that documents the geographic relationship between environmental degradation and low-income or minority communities. Our riverfront communities already have a dump, a second dump and now a proposed incinerator. Would anyone dare to propose that the incinerator be nestled in a rural area away from population centers, perhaps somewhere in the rolling hills of Buckingham Township? Imagine the outcry then. To paraphrase from the movie Network, "We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore."

Job creation : In the midst of tough times, I'm aware of the stated potential the incinerator project holds to create up to 80 temporary construction jobs which will not come to fruition if the project fails to gain approval. I have the highest regard for the operating engineers, steam fitters, electrical workers, masons, and other tradesmen, and the quality of work they do. But it should be noted that the operation of the incinerator at the proposed site will virtually kill the potential for other development, including ambitious riverfront plans in Bristol Borough and Bensalem. The incinerator plan is short sighted and could very well result in missed opportunities for eco-friendly, mixed use development of the waterfront and Maple Beach including well-planned, recreational, commercial and residential uses. The handful of permanent jobs the incinerator would create are hardly worth the economic tradeoff they require.

Revenue : The issue of tax benefits for Bristol Township and Bucks County and possible tipping fees for Bristol Township is understandably appealing. But there is an injustice in rewarding a municipality for hosting an environmentally objectionable enterprise when the ill effects of that enterprise transcend municipal lines. In addition to the obvious air and water quality issues, there is cause for concern about the transportation of the substances to the site, storage prior to incineration, and disposal of the residue. We would all share the risk, but not the financial "reward."

Consider the following. The county awards millions of dollars of casino money each year to municipalities that surround Bensalem as the host community of PARX Casino because of the impact the casino has on the area. The rationale is that they bear the brunt of increased traffic and police activity and should be compensated. What is the impact to the surrounding communities if the

incinerator goes into operation?

I would never want to trade increased revenue for the negative effects the incinerator could have, but this proposal should prompt a broader debate about revenue in the event similar proposals arise. We should explore a legislative remedy that shares prospective tipping fees with surrounding communities. Furthermore, increased tax revenues gained by the county should be specifically earmarked for amelioration of problems in surrounding communities.

Bristol Borough has been blessed with outstanding representation from Congressman Fitzpatrick, Sen. Tomlinson, Rep. Galloway, and the county commissioners. We may at times disagree on broad national or state policy issues, but when it comes to representing the interests of Bristol Borough, their track record has been outstanding and unwavering. I hope they will step forward to assist us now in our effort to resist this development and take a futuristic look at projects whose impact transcend municipal lines.

<http://levittownnow.com/2014/02/19/incinerator-application-put-hold-officials-say/>

By Jeff Bohlen & Tom Sofield February 19, 2014 0 Comments

Read More ?

Incinerator Application Put on Hold, Officials Say

Residents against the incinerators at a recent meeting in Bristol. Credit: Tom Sofield/LevittownNow.com.

Residents against the incinerators at a recent meeting in Bristol.

Credit: Tom Sofield/LevittownNow.com.

In a surprise turn of events, the application for a hazardous waste facility that would house two incinerators along Delaware River in Bristol Township is being put on hold, according to township officials.

An email sent by Township Manager William McCauley to members of council was obtained Wednesday afternoon by LevittownNow.com and reads: "The Bristol Partners appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board has been withdrawn," which confirms the application by Route 13 Bridge Partners LP of King of Prussia, Montgomery County has been put on hold.

Applicants and their representatives being sworn in at January's Zoning Board Hearing Credit: Jeff Bohlen LevittownNow.com

Applicants and their representatives being sworn in at January's Zoning Board Hearing

Credit: Jeff Bohlen

LevittownNow.com

According to a report in Philly.com, Allen Toadvine, the applicant's attorney, said, "I sent a letter to Bristol Township indicating that we're asking them to mark the application withdrawn without prejudice at this point."

"We haven't decided to pull out totally. But we need additional time to gather that information. And once we do that we'll decide whether to reapply to Bristol Township," Toadvine told Philly.com.

Attempts to reach Toadvine by LevittownNow.com have gone unsuccessful and a message was left.

Starting early Wednesday morning, a flurry of e-mails and calls hinted at the withdrawal of the application. The rumor picked up more steam at the Bucks County Commissioner's meeting Wednesday morning.

Commissioner Robert Loughery said he was "certain without a doubt the application for incinerators is going to be withdrawn in Bristol Township."

Loughery was responding to a question posed to him by former New Jersey Governor Jim Florio, who is a lawyer working oppose the plan.

"On behalf of the Citizens of New Jersey downward from the proposed hazardous waste incinerator project in Bristol Township, Pennsylvania, thank you. Please convey my gratitude to all who were responsible for its withdrawal," Florio, in an e-mail obtained by LevittowNow.com, said to Loughery .

Attempts to reach Loughery and Florio for further comment about the exchange were not returned as of press time.

The proposed application has caused a local furor on both sides of the Delaware River, with residents creating social media pages and petitions against the plan.

With the item on the next Bristol Township Zoning Board meeting, a large turnout was expected and there were concerns if the township building on Bath Road could accommodate the large crowd.

Officials and representatives for the applicant said before the Zoning Board in January that the roughly 53,000-square-foot plant would be comprised of offices and two incinerators that would burn 60 tons of garbage daily. The refuse would be alcohol, cleaners, paints, medicines, aerosols, pesticides and adhesives.

The first Zoning Board meeting where the proposal was discussed there was a huge turnout for the 4 1/2 hour long meeting that had moments of drama. Supporters from both sides of the issue listened intently to the testimony, took notes, snapped pictures, and asked questions aloud often challenging the testimony being given by witnesses for Route 13 Bridge Partners.

In the weeks since, outcry has continued. Local and state representatives including Bristol Borough and Bensalem Twp who passed resolutions against the proposed idea. Local residents also have spoken out against the proposed facility. Many were locals who have voiced concerned about the environment and the health of residents.

Bristol Township Zoning board officials could not be reached for comment at press time.

http://www.philly.com/philly/business/20140220_Firm_shelves_Lower_Bucks_incinerator_plan.html

Firm puts Lower Bucks incinerator plan on back burner

Ben Finley, Inquirer Staff Writer

Last updated: Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 6:02 PM

Posted: Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 5:49 PM

In what the proposal's opponents are calling a victory, the company that wants to build a hazardous-waste incinerator in lower Bucks County has put its efforts on hold indefinitely.

Allen Toadvine, attorney for the for Route 13 Bristol Partners, said that Bristol Township had asked for more specifics on the potential release of pollutants, but he said that the firm would need to choose a manufacturer for the plant before it could provide those details.

The township zoning hearing board was to consider the firm's application for a variance on Monday to build the incinerator, the first step in a years-long approval process that would end with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Toadvine said the firm withdrew its zoning application in a letter on Wednesday.

"We haven't decided to pull out totally," the attorney said. "But we need additional time to gather that information. And once we do that we'll decide whether to reapply to Bristol Township."

Emissions from hazardous waste incinerators are heavily regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which says its limits on incinerator emissions are "generally protective of human health and the environment." The federal standards still allow for a very small amount of toxins to escape, which the plant's opponents contend could be harmful.

The proposed 50,000-square-foot plant would burn pesticides and pharmaceuticals near the Delaware River and densely populated towns on both sides of river. It galvanized opponents in towns such as Bristol and the city of Burlington, which would be downwind of the plant.

"We consider this a huge victory," said Louis Cappelli Jr., an attorney representing Burlington City. "The opposition was growing everyday on both sides of the river. Burlington Mayor [James] Fazone and the other elected officials on the New Jersey side were going to fight this battle til the end."

bfinley@phillynews.com

610-313-8118

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/opinion/letters/reject-the-bristol-incinerator-to-protect-our-water/article_abf67434-df64-5cd0-912a-159a912c76ed.html

Reject the Bristol incinerator to protect our water

Posted: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:00 am

What is happening in West Virginia should be a wake-up call for the country. Toxic chemicals spewed above the water intake for residents of West Virginia, contaminating their water supply. The water supply for 6 million people could be at risk if a proposed toxic incinerator in Bristol Township, Pa., is built. This incinerator would be located along the Delaware River, putting the water supply for Philadelphia, Burlington and Camden counties at risk.

This incinerator will not only pollute the air of local communities, but could pollute their water supplies as well. Chemicals will be transported from this site by truck, which, if there was an accident or spill, could spew into the Delaware River. Also, chemicals will be stored in tanks on-site, just as in West Virginia. If the tanks were to leak, they could spill right into the river, resulting in a disaster similar to the one in West Virginia. Tides could also push chemicals into Trenton's water supply intake, threatening the public's drinking water.

Riverfronts should be for the people and to revitalize communities, not for a toxic incinerator. If anything were to happen on this site, it would have detrimental impacts on the environment and the Delaware River. The horrific situation in West Virginia should be a deterrent for Bristol officials. Putting a toxic plant along any waterway is dangerous to our environment and communities. I urge Bristol officials to reject this proposal and protect people's water.

Nicole Dallara

Outreach coordinator

New Jersey Sierra Club

Trenton

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/plans-for-incinerator-put-on-hold-in-bristol-township/article_b40ee277-eeb2-59cc-a4e9-eba28ace2113.html

Plans for incinerator put on hold in Bristol Township

Posted: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 2:15 pm | Updated: 6:45 pm, Wed Feb 19, 2014.

By ANTHONY DIMATTIA Staff writer

Controversial plans for a proposed industrial waste burner at the Bridge Business Center in Bristol Township have been put on hold, according to a letter sent to township officials.

Allen Toadvine, attorney for the developer, Route 13 Bristol Partners LP, said in the letter received by the municipality Wednesday that his clients are “withdrawing the application at this time so that we can obtain the necessary information to provide the Zoning Hearing Board with additional testimony specific to their concerns.”

Toadvine said he would contact the board if his clients are in a “position to proceed.”

Route 13 Bristol Partners of King of Prussia presented plans to build a 50,392-square-foot incinerator and a 3,749-square-foot office on two parcels on George Patterson Boulevard at the business center, according to the application filed with the township.

The company was requesting variances to operate the incinerator, which is not a permitted use under the township's zoning ordinance, and to exceed the maximum impervious surface ratio allowed. It also was challenging the validity of the ordinance, which the application states "unconstitutionally excludes a legitimate use, that being an industrial waste burner."

The company was set to go before the Zoning Hearing Board on Monday.

Hundreds of people from the township and neighboring towns in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, including Burlington City, have attended township meetings to voice their opposition to the incinerator, which would be located near Rohm & Haas and Dow Chemical, off Route 413, the road that connects to the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014302210031&nclick_check=1
Developer withdraws plan for unpopular waste incinerator
Feb. 20, 2014 9:31 PM | 0 Comments

BRISTOL, PA. — A developer has withdrawn a bid to build an industrial waste incinerator that faced opposition from residents here and in South Jersey.

In a letter to Bristol’s zoning board, attorney Allen Toadvine said he would contact the board if his client, Route 13 Bristol Partners LP of King of Prussia, decided to proceed later.

Critics feared air pollution from the proposed facility near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge could affect the health of residents. The applicant sought a zoning variance because the use is not permitted in the bridge center’s heavy industrial zone.

New Jersey Sierra Club Director Jeff Tittel called the withdrawal a “victory” for the environment that he hopes will become permanent.