

Press Release
For Immediate Release
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Alliance Cooperating as Local Air Quality Explored

Landfill team meets today with representatives of federal, state agencies

Taylor, Pa., April 2, 2008 – Officials of Alliance Landfill and Waste Management today pledged to continue cooperating with federal and state officials as they develop plans to learn more about local air quality.

The Alliance team made the commitment during a meeting at the landfill with representatives from the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH), and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP).

“During the meeting we reviewed our operations with an emphasis on what we do to protect the community and the environment,” said Glenn Kempa, Alliance manager. “We also made clear our willingness to cooperate with these agencies as they gather more information.”

PADEP in 2006 began operating an air monitoring station on Keyser Avenue near the landfill. The station operated for more than 18 months. ATSDR and PADOH, after reviewing data collected by the station, announced that the station did not detect anything that constitutes a health risk. The agencies will conduct a public hearing Thursday in Old Forge to review this data.

“We are pleased that 18 months of data from PADEP’s air monitoring station has confirmed that air quality measurements near Alliance are consistently acceptable,” Mr. Kempa said.

Among those who represented Alliance at the meeting were Ben Hoffman M.D., Waste Management’s chief medical officer, and Sarah A. Foster, an environmental scientist with CPF Associates, Inc., a Washington, D.C.-based environmental health firm. Ms. Foster conducted two health risk assessments to evaluate the landfill’s current and proposed future operations.

In 2004 Alliance Landfill, based on concerns expressed by local residents, commissioned a human health risk assessment of its operations. The assessment used widely accepted protocols to determine whether the landfill’s operations posed a threat to the community’s health. Following the recommendation of PADOH, the assessment was independently overseen by Arthur Frank M.D., Ph.D., a professor of public health and chairman of the Department of

Environmental and Occupational Health at Drexel University.

The assessment was released in February 2005 and found that the landfill's operations do not pose a public health concern. A second assessment, based on Alliance's Area 2A expansion, concluded that the landfill's proposed future operation will not pose a public health concern. This assessment was released in August 2005 and also was overseen by Dr. Frank.

Reviews of state cancer data were conducted by Dr. Stephen Waring, assistant professor of epidemiology at the University of Texas School of Public Health. The reviews found that the occurrence of cancer and deaths due to cancer among residents of Old Forge, Taylor and Ransom Twp. do not occur at a higher frequency than among the population of Lackawanna County and Pennsylvania. The results of the cancer studies were released in 2005.

Alliance's environmental management systems received International Standards Organization (ISO) 14001 certification in 2004. ISO is an assurance to Alliance's neighbors, employees, regulators and customers that its policies and procedures are described, organized and carried out to the highest standards. The landfill's compliance with ISO standards is audited every six months and Alliance received ISO recertification in August 2007. The regular audits mean that Alliance is continually improving its operations.

Two years ago Alliance received its industry's highest award, the Solid Waste Association of North American's Gold Award for Landfill Management Excellence, and the landfill operates with an open-door policy that invites neighbors to visit the landfill any time during operating hours to see first-hand how the business is operated. Thousands of local residents have participated in site tours, wildlife habitat camps, open houses and other activities at the landfill in the last few years.