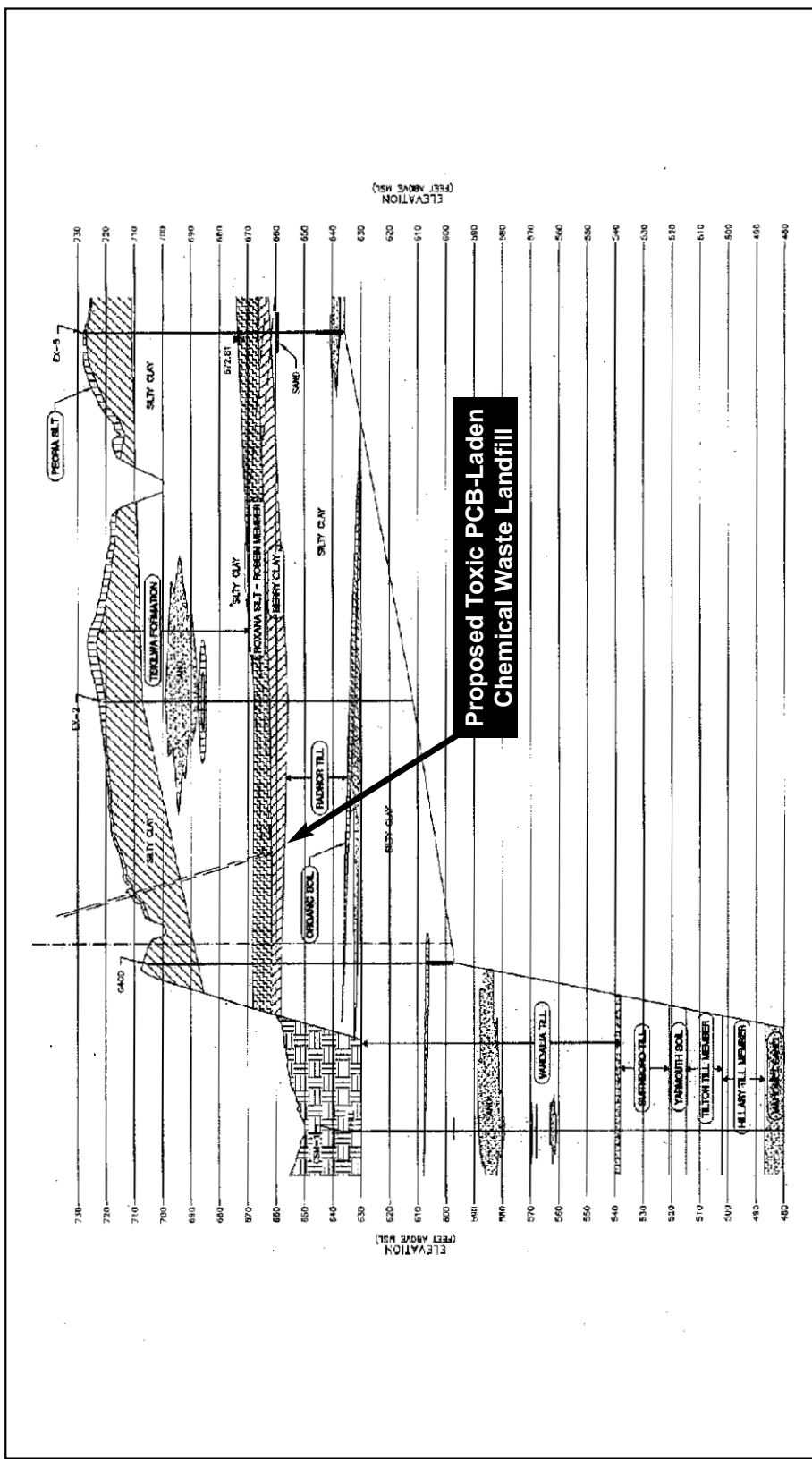






# Geology Underlying The Proposed PCB Chemical Waste Landfill



# **What Can Public Officials Do?**

## **SAMPLE RESOLUTIONS**

Get a copy of sample resolutions adopted by the Logan County and Champaign County boards opposing the proposed PCB chemical waste landfill for your board to review and adopt.

## **MAILING LIST SIGN UP**

Leave contact information and WATCH will keep you up to date on developments related to the proposed landfill.

## **CONSIDER JOINING A REGIONAL CONSORTIUM**

The combined actions of a regional group of governmental bodies can be significant. The Mahomet Aquifer Consortium is studying the availability and quantity of water. Consider joining a similar regional consortium to become involved in efforts related to managing the risks to the quality of our water.

## What You Can Do Now?

- 1. CONTACT DECISION-MAKERS** and tell them of your concerns and opposition and ask them to oppose the permitting of the proposed PCB chemical waste landfill. Tell local officials to follow local permitting laws.
  - DeWitt County Board – demand a permit review under Section 153
  - Mahomet Valley Water Authority – support their efforts under Section 2605
  - U.S. EPA Region 5 Office - Chicago – file your comments about the permit
  - State and Federal Legislators – ask them to oppose the landfill permit
- 2. STAY INVOLVED**
  - Join and Support WATCH and its efforts – your financial support is needed
  - Attend public meetings and hearings about the landfill
  - Spread the word to your friends and neighbors, keep the pressure on
- 3. DON'T ACCEPT THEIR EXCUSES** – local regulations can give us the right control the permitting of the PCB chemical waste landfill. Demand no less!

# What are PCBs? Polychlorinated Biphenyls

PCBs are a group of synthetic organic chemicals that can cause a number of different harmful effects. There are no known natural sources of PCBs in the environment.

PCBs are either oily liquids or solids and are colorless to light yellow. Some PCBs are volatile and may exist as a vapor in air. They have no known smell or taste.

If you breathe the air that contains PCBs, they can enter your body through your lungs and pass into the bloodstream.

A common way for PCBs to enter your body is by eating meat or fish products or other foods that contain PCBs.

For people living near waste sites or processing or storage facilities, and for people who work with or around PCBs, the most likely ways that PCBs will enter their bodies are from skin contact with contaminated soil and from breathing PCB vapors.

Unchanged PCBs may also remain in your body and be stored for years mainly in the fat and liver, but smaller amounts can be found in other organs as well.

PCBs collect in milk fat and can enter the bodies of infants through breast-feeding.

Studies of workers provide evidence that

PCBs were associated with certain types of cancer in humans, such as cancer of the liver and biliary tract.

Based on the evidence for cancer in animals, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has stated that PCBs may reasonably be anticipated to be carcinogens.

Both EPA and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) have determined that PCBs are probably carcinogenic to humans.

The EPA standard for PCBs in drinking water is 0.5 parts of PCBs per billion parts (ppb) of water.

For the protection of human health from the possible effects of drinking the water or eating the fish or shellfish from lakes and streams that are contaminated with PCBs, the EPA regulates that the level of PCBs in these waters be no greater than 0.17 parts of PCBs per trillion parts (ppt) of water.

Agency for Toxic Substances  
and Disease Registry

U. S. Department of Health and  
Human Services

Public Health Service

[www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov)

*According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, PCBs are linked to numerous health issues including cancer and non-cancerous effects on the endocrine, reproductive and immune systems. The manufacture and use of PCBs was banned in the United States in the late 1970s.*

## **Have Some Cookies and a Drink on WATCH**

*According to the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, PCBs are odorless, tasteless and either colorless or light yellow.*

*With a toxic PCB-laden chemical waste landfill over the water supply in the Clinton area and the Mahomet Aquifer, how will you tell when your water is contaminated with PCBs?*

*WATCH welcomes you to enjoy some cookies and a drink  
... of PCB-free water, while it lasts.*