

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 18, 2008

The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 ARN
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:

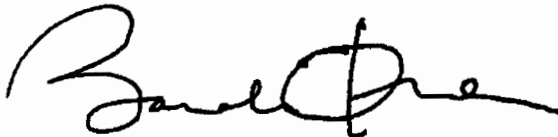
It is our understanding that the Peoria Disposal Company is working to designate the Clinton Waste Landfill in DeWitt County as a Chemical Waste Landfill, thereby allowing the disposition of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) waste at this site.

Because this designation must be evaluated and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, we are writing to express our strong concerns with such a designation.

It is our understanding that there are ten existing chemical waste landfills nationwide with existing storage capacity for PCB disposition. We also are troubled that the targeted Illinois landfill is situated directly above the Mahomet Aquifer, which underlies 15 counties and serves as a significant source of drinking water for the residents of east central Illinois. Recently, local residents signaled their concern with this proposal in a February referendum, where almost 75 percent of DeWitt County voters expressed opposition to EPA approval of designating this site as a chemical waste landfill.

We wish to be kept closely apprised as to the status of your ongoing work on this issue. We also request that the EPA respond with a timeline associated with its evaluation process, information on any preliminary findings or decisions that have been determined to date, including the potential impact of this landfill on the aquifer, and assurances that a public hearing will be conducted on this issue. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Barack Obama
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

cc: Mary A. Gade, Regional Administrator, EPA Region V