

North Hampton Select Board
Jim Maggiore, Chair
Larry Miller, Vice Chair
Rick Stanton, Member



Municipal Offices
233 Atlantic Avenue
North Hampton, NH 03862
papple@northhampton-nh.gov
Tel: (603) 964-8087
Fax: (603) 964-1514

January 25, 2017

The Hon. Jack Blalock, Mayor
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH
1 Junkins Avenue
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

RE: Public Meetings of the Coakley Landfill Group

Dear Mayor Blalock:

As you heard during City Attorney Sullivan's presentation to the City Council on Monday evening, the Coakley Landfill Group ("CLG") consists of the municipalities, generators and haulers named in the "Superfund" litigation. North Hampton is one of those municipalities. The City of Portsmouth has represented the municipalities in the Group's Executive Committee since its inception.

As a matter of record, North Hampton has not been consulted regarding any deliberations or decisions made by the Coakley Landfill Group within no less than 5 years. We have had no voice in its activities. Statements to the contrary are false. The technical presentation made the Portsmouth City Council on Monday included nothing with which we were consulted. If the Coakley Landfill was in Portsmouth, the question and deliberation of whose citizen's would be expected to drink the water would be short work.

The issue of clean water for the people of the Seacoast is not going away. For too long, the Group's activities have been conducted behind closed doors, precluding the other constituent municipalities and citizens at large an opportunity to meaningfully participate and learn about the issues that surround the Coakley Landfill.

We request that the City of Portsmouth, in its capacity as the municipalities' representative on the CLG, act as follows:

1. Publish notices of CLG meetings consisting of:
 - a. The time, place and location of said meetings; and,
 - b. An agenda of issues to be discussed; and,

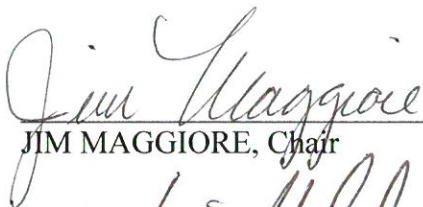
- c. The identity of all participants in the meeting so noticed; and,
2. Open the CLG meetings to any interested person; and,
3. Provide any interested person the opportunity to speak during a CLG meeting and to ask questions of any person participating on behalf of the CLG; and,
4. Publish on the City's website minutes of the meetings that identify decisions taken, motions made, the people who attended and provide a general discussion of subjects discussed.

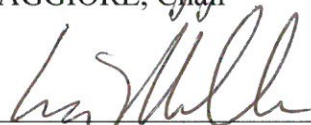
We urge you to take these steps immediately.

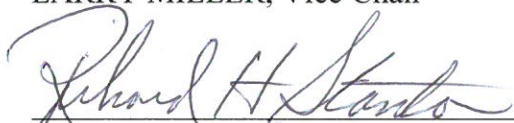
We urge you to publicize your decision on these matters and to ensure that members of the public are fully informed regarding the same.

Respectfully,

NORTH HAMPTON SELECT BOARD


JIM MAGGIORE, Chair


LARRY MILLER, Vice Chair


RICK STANTON, Member

Copies: Nancy Colbert Puff, Acting City Manager
Robert Sullivan, Esquire, City Attorney
Paul L. Apple, North Hampton Town Administrator