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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 23, 2009

Mr. Jeff Maurice
Williamson County Public Policy Coalition
P. O. Box 778
Hutto, TX 78634

Re: Williamson County Public Policy Coalition's complaint against Williamson County Recycling and Disposal Facility, Hutto (Williamson County), Texas
MSW Permit #1405-B; TCEQ Incident #128939

Dear Mr. Maurice:

This letter is in response to your letter dated July 30, 2009, to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Region 11 Office in which you described issues related to the Williamson County Recycling and Disposal Facility. The Region 11 Office has forwarded your letter to the Waste Permits Division for response. The three issues described in your letter are summarized below:

-It was alleged that the recycling center was not properly represented in the permit application for expansion, nor was it represented in TCEQ's Final Order.

-Not shown on the map, but as a matter of visual observation, there is an oil storage tank in the northwest area of the pad of the Recycling Center, that is not referenced in MSW Permit 1405-B.

-An abandoned residence, the historic Almquist-Johnson house, is in the permit boundary but not referenced in the 1405-B permit.

With regard to the recycling center in question, Williamson County should modify the permit to reflect operation of the recycling center since it is located within the permit boundary. It is TCEQ's understanding that Williamson County intends to submit a permit modification which addresses the recycling center, including the used oil storage tank. The facility operates a Used Oil Collection Center under TCEQ Registration Number C88014.

As for the historic home, the application indicates that the Texas Historical Commission (THC) had determined a house located in the southeast corner of the expansion, adjacent to FM 1660, (more than 2,000 feet south of the recycling center) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance. The house is also located in the buffer zone and will not be destroyed as a result of landfill operations. The THC gave one future option which is to remove the house to a THC approved offsite location.

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However, the house mentioned in your letter (some 100 yards south of the recycling center) does not appear to be the historic house presented in the application. If you find that there is another historic structure within the proposed site and the applicant failed to include it in the application and/or it was demolished, you may address this issue by filing a complaint with the Texas Historical Commission.

Thank you for contacting the TCEQ with your concerns. If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please call either Mr. Barry Kalda of Region 11 at (512) 339-2929 or P. Hunt Prompungtagorn in MSW Permits at (512) 239-1191.

Sincerely,



Earl Lott, Director
Waste Permits Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

EL/PMSR/bjk