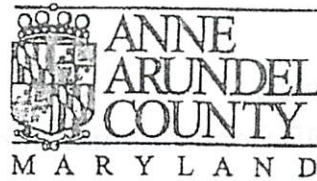


2015-01

STEVEN R. SCHUH
County Executive



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February 9, 2015

Benjamin H. Grumbles
Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21230

Dear Secretary Grumbles:

On November 24, 2014 the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) issued a permit to Tolson & Associates for construction and operation of a private rubble landfill located at the end of Capital Raceway Road in Crofton. The surrounding residential area has changed dramatically over the last 20 years since this permit process began, and I urge you to consider these changes as you address any upcoming decisions related to this project. As I have said before, I am opposed to landfills in residential areas.

This permit request is a continuation by-right of a granted Special Exception dating back to December 8, 1993. Since 1993, much has changed in the immediate and surrounding area of this site. Specifically, thousands of single family and multifamily homes have been constructed in the immediate vicinity of the proposed rubble landfill. Further, how we regulate development around Chesapeake Bay tributaries and underlying aquifers has changed.

The landfill will consist of approximately 72 acres of fill area on a 184-acre site zoned RA. It is proposed to be constructed adjacent to the closed Cunningham Rubble Landfill. Noteworthy is that the site has Four Season's Community to its immediate northeast, Capital Raceway Park and Evergreen Road to the southeast, and the Chesapeake Bay Tributary, Little Patuxent River, to its west. Additional nearby communities include the business and residential communities of Waugh Chapel and Piney Orchard.

Over the last 20-plus years, largely attended public meetings and multiple hearings have occurred concerning use of this property as an active rubble landfill. The residents and organizations that represent them remain steadfast in their opposition of construction of a rubble landfill. Maryland General Assembly members over the years have forwarded letters of concern and opposition to MDE, demonstrating their support of the resident's right to oppose this landfill. Most recently, in June 2014, Anne Arundel County Council passed legislation, Bill 21-14, with an effective date of January 1, 2015, with the intention of eliminating rubble landfills as a special exception use in zoning district RA and W3.

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