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Comments on Docket #2019-P-W-0023

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Organization: I am a concerned citizen representing myself. I'm also a member of the grassroots environmental organizations, Keep Our Wells Clean and the Sussex Environmental Network

Comments:

Clean Delaware LLC , a legal name shielding various business entities from liability, is requesting an expansion of their business operation so they can spray more human excrement, sludge of unknown content squeezed from various unknown sources of wastewater, restaurant waste and other unknown types of waste like PFOCs and PFASs. The current term for this is Bio-Solids. It sounds so acceptable but hides so much. Aside from the farmland currently in used by Clean Delaware for this purpose, they want to expand the spraying of bio solids on another 200 acres. This company violates the rules by spraying on rainy days or when water is obviously pooling on these fields. The documents attached to the application, state there will be testing, monitoring of spraying and injection methods (2 ft deep!), and ridiculously small set backs to avoid spraying near peoples homes. There are endless pages of so called information to provide an illusion of protection for the people who live in the area. There are standards for the nutrients, pollutants, heavy metals and other substances known to contaminate ground water. Funny that the chart does not show the measurements. No it's really not funny how once again a business in Sussex County that spreads pollution and contaminates the sole fresh water source is being encouraged to expand operations despite a history of not operating within the rules. This is a company that has admitted responsibility for contaminating the private wells in the nearby poor unincorporated community or Russel Collins which lies along the border of the Town of Milton. Very little has been done to help these people. Some receive bottled water. Clearly, not a real solution to a FOREVER PROBLEM. Each of the additional proposed farm spray fields is in an area that would be described as an Environmental Justice (EJ) community. For those who live nearby who would be better described as. Middle Class, they are also suffering with contaminated well water. This is a problem that does not stay in a poor peoples' zip code. The contaminant plume travels. In this area it moves mostly South and East. No one is safe. There is no treatment other than mixing this sewage septic mess with lime. But again, DNREC, totally ignores that groundwater is the aquifer lying beneath less than 3 feet of sandy soil. It's the aquifer supplying thousands of people in Sussex County with their sole supply of DRINKING WATER. Everyone in this area is on well water drawn from this aquifer. There are some people in a couple of small towns like Milton that have additional minimum extra protection due to an aged municipal well system. Most people in the area obtain all their water, including their drinking water, from private wells on their property. They have no protection from these archaic poisonous practices of spraying human biosolids, industrial or agricultural waste or wastewater produced by various busines operations. They have no choice but to use their well water. There are EPA rules about spreading bio solidson land, farm and otherwise. The business operation of Clean Delaware operates totally outside those rules. Supposedly, DNREC, has higher standards. Apparently, it' s anything goes in Sussex County where land and water are viewed as an open sewage system. When will DNREC make an effort to fulfill it's mission to protect the environment , all of it,, water, land, and air in order to achieve it's even higher purpose to protect the public's health. It's time for DNREC to entire it's rubber stamp and say "NO" to these polluting businesses.

Delaware can do better than this. If DNREC wants to act as a business promoting State Agency then demand business actually adopt CLEAN, non-polluting practices. Build REAL STATE OF THE ART sewage treatment plants. Clean Delaware is an oxymoron for FILTHY business that abuses the privilege of operating in Sussex County Delaware. DNREC do your job to protect people and deny this permit. Shelly Cohen Concerned Citizen, Homeowner, Constituent and Voter Milton, DE