

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

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From: donotreply@state.de.us (MailBox Resources)

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), philliegyrl1968@gmail.com

Comments on Docket #2022-P-W-0007 -- Denali Water Solutions AGU Permit

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Organization: A Retired Concerned Citizen

Comments:

I am a retired person who cares about any and all agricultural and industrial pollution activities in Delaware. The vast majority of Delaware's water resources are already 97% polluted! Yes, Delaware has the most polluted water in the entire United States per the EPI report issued in early 2022. <https://whyy.org/articles/delawares-rivers-and-streams-pollution-environmental-integrity-project-water-safety/> DNREC is the state agency barged with the mission to regulate all pollution via applications for permits. Somehow DNREC has misinterpreted this very important task. Instead of acting in the interest of Delawareans by protecting water, land and air from Ag and other polluting industries, DNREC Provides presentations for the public record and in these hearings that are more of an enabling SALES PITCH to smooth over any and all objections- a role one would expect from the applicant. In this DENALI permit application, the scientific staff at DNREC seem to have forgotten the basic questions and responsibilities for due diligence of a review to determine and verify basic information in this DENALI application. It wasn't long ago, that this company was a trucking company hauling waste, now it's in the waste treatment business. In DE, apparently a company that transports animal waste to a farm for the farmer to then apply animal waste to his or her land is considered a waste treatment company - no expertise, education, certification or accuracy / truth required on their written application because DNREC does not actually perform the basic who, what, when etc due diligence of a factual review. The "original" application was a copy of an application submitted to the State of Maryland for cow waste with language and terms used in that State. This was brought to the attention of DNREC. In turn the revised application had some words substituted, but not enough to reflect the actual Denali operation. For instance, the app refers to manure, not DAF, which is what is supposedly being applied to the 10 +/- farms in the application. As a Delawarean, I am concerned about this permit application. The tanks that were. (Are) used for cow manure will now be used for the storage of DAF, the waste from chicken slaughterhouse operations. I worry about increased pollution of the ground water and aquifers supplying drinking water to most Delawareans. The lab testing is supposed to be done but results for pathogens, nitrogen, phosphorus and other pollutants will only be known and provided after the land application occurs because tests require time for processing - an inconvenience for Denali and the farmers involved. I'm worried about water borne illnesses and cancer in Delaware. Already DE is the State with the 2nd highest cancer rate in the USA. I'm worried about the affect of agricultural and industrial pollutants which already negatively impact the intelligence of children and their ability to learn. I'm worried about the already high rates of birth defects and miscarriages in Delaware. I have these and other worries about this Denali permit application. I am stymied by the lack of due diligence from DNREC. It seems that DNREC is confused about its mission. Is DNREC, the protector of Delawareans and Delaware's water, land and air or is it the state agency that promotes businesses of all types, especially those evading scrutiny of any review of their polluting activities. PLEASE DENY THIS PERMIT APPLICATION! INSIST ON A NEW AND REAL APPLICATION SPECIFIC TO THE ACTUAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND THE REAL FACTS SPECIFIC TO THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE LAND APPLICATION OF DAF AS ALLOWED UNDER DE LAW AND THE CURRENT CLEAN WATER ACT! Thank you Shelly Cohen Milton DE