

792-7653

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Department of Environmental Quality Engineering
Central Region
75 Grove Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

February 20, 1985

Westford Board of Health
 55 Main Street, Town Hall
 Westford, Massachusetts 01886

Re: Westford - Solid Waste Disposal
 Request for Show Cause Conference
 Regarding Violations at Sanitary
 Landfill

Gentlemen:

On January 29, 1985, engineers from the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering conducted an inspection of the Westford Sanitary Landfill on Cold Spring Road in Westford, Massachusetts.

At the time of the inspection, violations were observed of Section 19.03 (Plan Approval), 19.14 (Spreading and Compacting of Refuse), 19.15 (Depths of Cover), 19.17 (Disposal of Bulky Waste), 19.23 (Supervision of Operation), of the Department's "Regulations for the Disposal of Solid Wastes by Sanitary Landfill", (310 CMR 19.00) which were adopted under the provisions of Section 150A, Chapter 111, of the Massachusetts General Laws.

It was noted that filling in areas not approved in the Department's Interim Plan approval of March 8, 1976, has occurred. In addition, two separate working areas were observed, one of which was covered with stumps and demolition debris. Both areas were without adequate daily cover and the demolition debris was left uncompacted. The lack of adequate cover material may have led to the leachate breakout observed in the wetlands adjacent to the landfill.

In addition, a review of the Department's files indicates the landfill is being operated without approved plans.

You are hereby requested to attend a conference to be held by the Department in the Central Regional Office, 75 Grove Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, March 6, 1985, at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the conference will be to show cause why a Departmental ORDER should not be issued against you for failure to comply with the provisions of Section 150A of Chapter 111 of the General Laws and the "Regulations for the Disposal of Solid Wastes by Sanitary Landfill".

Westford Board of Health
February 20, 1985

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Please notify Mr. Mark Begley of this office of your intentions to attend this conference either by letter or by calling this office at (617) 792-7653.

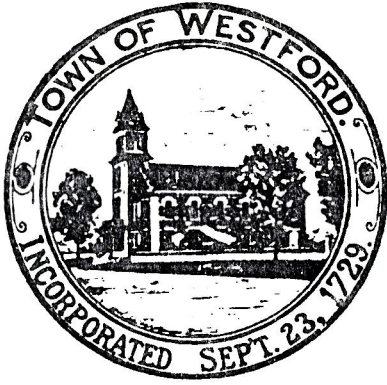
Yours truly,

John A. Desmond

John A. Desmond, Chief
Solid and Hazardous Materials

JAD/JWW/jc

cc: Board of Selectmen
Highway Department
Madeline Kolb, DEQE, Boston



TOWN OF WESTFORD
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWN HALL
WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01886
692-8431

February 26, 1985

Mr. Mark Begley
Department of Environmental Quality Engineering
75 Grove Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

RE: Westford - Violations at
Sanitary Landfill

Dear Mr. Begley:

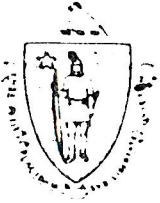
We have received your letter of February 20, 1985, concerning your inspection of the Town of Westford sanitary landfill. This Board does not operate the landfill although it did do so up to about ten years ago. Since that time the landfill has been operated by the Highway Department under the Board of Selectmen. As a result the Board of Health does not have any of the plans and other documents referred to in your letter. Despite these facts our Board agreed at its regular meeting last evening to attend the hearing you have called on March 6, 1985 at 10:00a.m. We trust that the Highway Department and/or the Board of Selectmen will be present also.

Sincerely,

Charles G. Colburn (g.c.p.)
Charles G. Colburn, M.D.

CGC/jap

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792-7653

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Department of Environmental Quality Engineering
Central Region
75 Grove Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

March 22, 1985

Westford Board of Health
55 Main Street, Town Hall
Westford, Massachusetts 01886

Re: Westford - Solid Waste Disposal
Sanitary Landfill
Cold Spring Road
Showcause Conference Summary

Gentlemen:

On Wednesday, March 6, 1985, a conference was held with representatives of the Town of Westford and the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) Central Region Office. In attendance were Paul F. Alphen, Esq., Westford Selectmen's office; David R. Earl, Board of Selectmen; Charles G. Colburn, M.D., Board of Health; George W. Wyman, Superintendent of Streets; and John Desmond and Mark Begley, DEQE Central Region. Among the solid waste issues discussed were violations of the Department's "Regulations for the Disposal of Solid Waste by Sanitary Landfill", (310 CMR 19.00) as noted in a correspondence from the Department of February 20, 1985.

Representatives from the Town of Westford offered a chronology of events surrounding the operation and current status of the landfill. A brief discussion of solid waste disposal alternatives for the Town of Westford was also presented by the Town officials.

The option proposed by the Town for its future solid waste disposal was the closure and capping of the existing sanitary landfill and the operation of a refuse transfer station.

As a result of the meeting, the following conditions will be met by the Town of Westford:

1. All solid waste disposed of at the existing sanitary landfill shall be covered by the end of landfilling operations each day and steps will be taken so that the landfill will operate in compliance with the Department's "Solid Waste Regulations".

Westford Board of Health
March 22, 1985

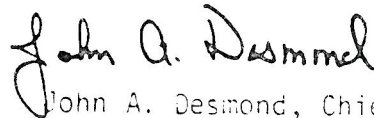
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2. Closure plans for the existing landfill are to be submitted to this office by the Town's consulting engineer by September, 1985. In addition, pertinent reports and agreements on solid waste disposal in the Town of Westford will be submitted to the Department. The landfill will be regularly inspected for compliance with DEQE Solid Waste Regulations and joint inspections with DEQE and representatives of the Board of Health will also be conducted.
3. The area of active waste disposal (the working face) should be relocated to portions of the site previously approved in which drainage slopes need to be increased in order to encourage surface water runoff.

The Department agreed to hold in abeyance further enforcement action against the Town of Westford relative to the operation of its sanitary landfill, located off Cold Spring Road, Westford, pending the outcome of the Town Meeting and operational improvements at the sanitary landfill.

Should you have further questions or comments on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



John A. Desmond, Chief
Solid and Hazardous Materials

JAD/jc
cc: Board of Selectmen
Highway Department
Madeleine Kolb, DEQE Boston

22-A 23-A

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 12, 1985

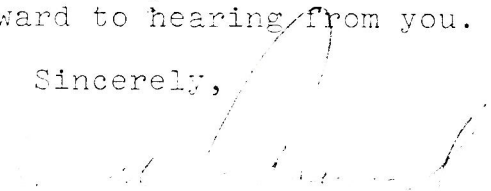
Mr. Russ O. Silva
Commissioner
MA Department of Environmental
Quality Engineering
1 Winter Street
Boston, MA

Dear Commissioner:

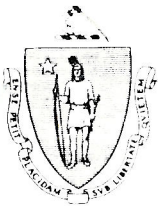
Over the past several months, a number of residents from the Town of Westford have expressed to me their concern over problems associated with the Westford Sanitary Landfill on Cold Spring Road in Westford, Massachusetts.

Upon inspection of the Town's landfill on January 29 of this year, engineers from the D.E.Q.E. observed a number of violations of state landfill regulations. To address the concerns of Westford, I urge you to undertake testing of the landfill leachate-- both surface and groundwater, to conduct an overall evaluation of the landfill site, and to take any necessary action to alleviate impacts to the surrounding environment. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Edward M. Kennedy



792-7653

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Department of Environmental Quality Engineering
Central Region
75 Grove Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

May 1, 1985

Senator Edward M. Kennedy
State House
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Re: Westford - Solid Waste
Disposal Facility

Dear Senator Kennedy:

In response to your correspondence to the Department, the Central Regional Office has enclosed recent correspondence with regard to the operation of the Westford Sanitary Landfill located off Cold Spring Road, Westford, Massachusetts.

As indicated by the correspondence, the Department has met with representatives of both the Board of Health and the Board of Selectmen of Westford regarding steps to correct conditions that have led to solid waste regulation violations at the landfill. The town is committed to the submittal of landfill closure plans to the Department by September, 1985. Surface water and groundwater monitoring will be performed as part of the landfill closure. Department personnel have also planned and conducted joint inspections with the Board of Health at the site.

In addition, the analysis of the public water supply of the Forge Village Gravel Packed Well and the Tubular Well Field taken on March 5, 1985 are also included.

Should your office require any further assistance relative to the landfill please contact Mr. Mark J. Begley at (617)792-7653 or information regarding the Water Supply please contact Mr. James Fuller at (617)792-7650.

Yours truly,

John A. Desmond
John A. Desmond, Chief
Solid and Hazardous Materials

JAD/JWW/lcp
cc: Madeleine Kolb, Boston DEQE
Pat King, Commissioners Office