



Paul Pape
Bastrop County Judge

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CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

2016 JUL 13 AM 10:41

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

July 12, 2016

Office of the Chief Clerk and TCEQ Commissioners
MC 105, TCEQ
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

RECEIVED
JUL 13 2016
MR

Dear TCEQ Commissioners:

Please deny the permit application of Denali Water Solutions, LLC (Permit Application # WQ000517000) to dispose of Class B bio-sludge on land in Bastrop County. The City of Austin has proven that there are more environmentally sound ways to use wastewater sludge, with products such as Dillo Dirt.

Bastrop County officials and citizens have several concerns. Class B sludge contains heavy metals that are toxic at certain concentrations. In addition, the sludge contains nutrients that fertilize plants both on the land and in water. Since the proposed site is on Cedar Creek, a major tributary to the Colorado River, we are troubled about the potential for pollution of the creek and river.

In addition, the site is in the undifferentiated outcrop (recharge zone) of the Wilcox aquifer. We worry that applying known pollutants in this sensitive recharge zone will result in contamination of the groundwater. There is also the matter of the County roads to the ranch that will suffer drastically from the 1000 or so round trip loads per year of sludge from City of Austin processing plants.

Finally, this sludge could provide breeding sites for vectors, including mosquitoes. With the anxiety about Zika virus exposure and transmission, adding any potential for the growth and spread of such pests in populated areas is irresponsible.

The negative impacts of Class B sludge applied to land in populated areas are overwhelming. The citizens of Bastrop County will suffer the consequences of water and air pollution from the sludge as it leaches into creeks and ground water by rains or dries and blows into residential neighborhoods. Bastrop County will bear the cost of maintaining impacted County roads without any remuneration from the City of Austin or their contractor. Our drivers must deal with the added congestion and risk of the 18 wheelers hauling the City of Austin's sludge here. Then there are the unknown consequences of potential spread of disease.

We in Bastrop County do not want to be a dumping ground for City of Austin sludge. I appeal to you to deny the permit to Denali. Dumping sludge on land in populated areas, or in aquifer recharge zones, is not environmentally responsible. We are counting on you to protect us from this folly.

Sincerely,

Paul Pape
County Judge

Enclosure: Commissioners Court Resolution, July 11, 2016

**RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONER'S COURT OF BASTROP COUNTY, TEXAS, IN OPPOSITION TO
THE LAND APPLICATION OF SEWAGE SLUDGE BY DENALI WATER SOLUTIONS LLC, TCEQ
APPLICATION PERMIT NO. WQ0005197000**

WHEREAS, the Bastrop County Commissioners Court is the governing body of the County of Bastrop, Texas, a subdivision of the State of Texas and has statutory authority to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, Denali Water Solutions LLC has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a permit to apply an average of seven (7) dry tons per acre of wastewater treatment plant sludge, a Class B bio-solid, per year on 2000 acres of land in Bastrop County for a permit period of five (5) years; and,

WHEREAS, the disposal of Class B sewage sludge on lands within Bastrop County has a high potential for negatively impacting the health, safety and welfare of our citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the disposal of sewage sludge on lands within the County may have a negative effect on property values in the area, and,

WHEREAS, the transporting of this volume of Class B wastewater sludge over County roadways will cause extraordinary wear and tear on the roads and create the potential for spills of toxic materials; and

WHEREAS, the proposed site of this sludge disposal permit is on Cedar Creek, a tributary to the Colorado River and over the outcrop (recharge zone) of the Hooper and Wilcox aquifers; and,

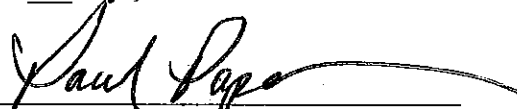
WHEREAS, pollutants, including heavy metals and pathogens and synthetic chemicals and pharmaceuticals, in the sludge may leach into ground water or run off into surface waters or surrounding water wells resulting in pollution, vector breeding and other negative impacts to our citizens and our natural resources,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF BASTROP COUNTY OPPOSES THE PERMIT APPLICATION REFERENCED HEREIN, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bastrop County Commissioners Court pleads, on behalf of the safety, health and welfare of our citizens, that the TCEQ deny said permit application; and,

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Judge of Bastrop County is authorized to deliver this RESOLUTION to the TCEQ and to the City of Austin and to represent Bastrop County in all proceedings to oppose the issuance of said permit.

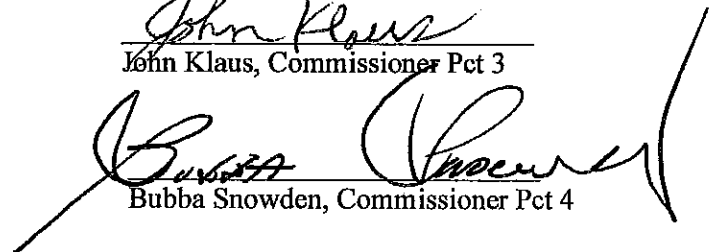
PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BASTROP, TEXAS on July 11, 2016 by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays,


Paul Pape, County Judge


Willie Pifia, Commissioner Pct 1


John Klaus, Commissioner Pct 3


Clara Beckett, Commissioner Pct 2


Bubba Snowden, Commissioner Pct 4

Attest:  Rose Pietsch, County Clerk

Pauli Pape
County Judge
Bastrop County Courthouse
804 Pecan Street
Bastrop, Texas 78602



TEXAS
COMMISSIONERS
ON ELECTRICITY DELIVERY
2016 JUL 13 11:03 AM
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

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TCEQ MAIL CENTER
DA

TCEQ Commissioners
MC 105, TCEQ
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

