



CITY OF EAST MOLINE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 25, 2023

Rock Island County Waste Management Association
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201

Re: Proposal to Locate Transfer Station in Moline

RICWMA Board Members:

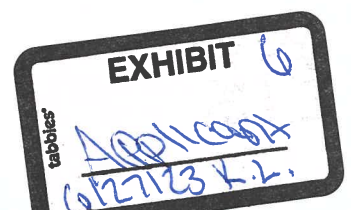
As you begin deliberating on the LRS application to locate a waste transfer station in Moline and whether this application is consistent with the Rock Island County Waste Management Plan (the Plan), I would like to share a few points of information.

First, it is apparent that the Plan, originally approved in 1996 and updated numerous times since then, contemplated the potential necessity of transfer stations which are defined as pollution control facilities in the Plan. Furthermore, pollution control facilities are “...**to be evaluated and undertaken on a regional basis** (emphasis added).” It is my contention that the necessity and location of transfer stations fall under the regulatory purview of RICWMA as it complies with the Plan.

Second, the Plan anticipates the challenges of siting pollution control facilities (landfill or transfer station) or an expansion of existing facilities. The Plan explicitly states: “To effectively deal with these challenges (siting pollution control facilities), RICWMA will need to provide guidance and monitoring of the existing waste management system in order for the best interest of Rock Island County to be served.”

Third, the most recent update of the Plan was completed in June of 2022. At that time, a mere six months prior to the introduction of the LRS proposal for Moline, there was no mention of the need for a transfer station nor for the need to divert the solid waste stream out of Rock Island County.

Fourth, the most recent Illinois Landfill Disposal Capacity Report (July 2022) identifies Region 3 (Peoria/Quad Cities) as ranking fourth (of seven regions) in the state with the most landfill capacity. Landfill capacity within this region was identified as having an estimated lifetime expectancy of 23 years. **However, when considering the expansion capacity at the Upper Rock Island County landfill (URIC) and the adjacent, dormant landfill owned by the City of East Moline, URIC's disposal capacity expands to 85 years or the year 2108.**



In summary, I offer the following: 1) RICWMA has the authority to determine need; 2) It is the obligation of RICWMA to take a regional approach to siting pollution control facilities; 3) the LRS proposal is a recent proposal based on financial gain and gaining market share rather than the need for additional pollution control facilities; and, 4) Adequate landfill capacity exists in our current facilities. As such, I urge you to join me in stating that need has not been established and the application is not consistent with the Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reggie Freeman".

Reggie Freeman
Mayor – City of East Moline