

In short, A mega-landfill in Scotland County is ...

Bad for the local economy

- Property values will drop.
- We may lose jobs.
- People will be less likely to relocate here.
- Tourism will suffer.

Bad financial management

- County receives only a little money and the payments will not increase with inflation.
- Other county expenses will go up.
- The county will be responsible for future environmental clean-up and lawsuits
- Our roads and bridges will fall apart.

Bad for you

- We'll see 250-400 semi-trucks and hundreds of a train cars full of trash travel through our neighborhoods every day.
- Our taxes will not decrease.
- The mega-landfill could end up close to you.
- We'll have garbage, filth, and odor every day.
- New landfill liners are not proven to be safe; they have always failed in the past and poisoned ground water, soil, and people.

CONTACT THE COMMISSIONERS

Tell each one that a mega-landfill in Scotland County is a bad idea and that you do not want a mega-landfill here.

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Is a Mega-Landfill Good for Scotland County?



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A Mega-Landfill is a Bad Choice for Scotland County

Bad for the Economy

Doesn't this mega-landfill mean lower taxes?

No. County Commission Chair JD Willis has stated that this mega-landfill will not lower our taxes.

Won't a mega-landfill bring local jobs to Scotland County?

Yes and No. People would be hired to work at the landfill, **BUT** other people will lose their jobs when the existing local landfill — and maybe even the recycling centers — close. **AND** Waste Management deleted from the contract the requirement that they hire Scotland County residents.

But isn't Scotland County competing with Richmond County to get this landfill? This must be a good opportunity.

Giant waste management companies often pit one poor county against a neighboring county in order to get the best package from one of them; then they establish a landfill in the other county, too. Why poor counties? Waste management corporations choose poor counties with high minority populations because usually those counties are desperate for any kind of economic development. This behavior has been called “environmental racism.”

Wake County or Mecklenburg County residents wouldn't tolerate a mega-landfill in their community, so why should we?

FACT: The largest landfill in U.S. history was at Fresh Kills, New York. It was visible from space with the naked eye. It was 2,200 acres.

The proposed Scotland County landfill would be 2,000 acres.

Bad Financial Planning

Doesn't this mega-landfill mean a lot of money for the county?

No. In the first year of operation, Waste Management will pay Scotland County \$2 million to dump garbage here. That's the same as a 45-cent increase in an \$8/hr wage. **PLUS** that amount does not increase with inflation. By the time the contract ends, the income will be about \$900K (1 percent of the county's revenue).

But a little money is better than no money, right?

No. The slight increase in the county's revenues does not consider the additional expenses the county will suffer, including extra work from the Sheriff's office to police the garbage truck violations and process paperwork when there's a spill. **PLUS** the county's roads and bridges will deteriorate from all the semi-truck traffic. Who pays for those repairs? **AND** when Waste Management is gone, the County must pay for environmental clean-ups and lawsuits.

FACT: County Manager John Crumpton has stated that a mega-landfill in Scotland County will not solve the County's financial problems.

Bad For You

The mega-landfill will be way out in the country, so why should I worry?

The landfill might be closer than you think. Waste Management can propose a mega-landfill any where in the county; if the County protests too much, W-M can sue Scotland County for breach of contract.

PLUS this mega-landfill is so big, you may sense its presence from many miles away. It is 5 times bigger than Scotch Meadows.

AND If you live within smelling distance of this mega-landfill (5 to 7 miles) the value of your property will drop, as it has in other communities that got “economically developed” with a mega-landfill.

But at least they're safe. Right?

No one knows yet. The liners that Waste Management will use have not been studied very much. Every other liner used in the past has failed, soil and ground water was contaminated, nearby homes condemned, and many people got sick years after the landfill company left their community and started another landfill somewhere else.



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