Message

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sent: 8/2/2016 3:19:22 PM
To: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP); Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP); DLutz@adem.alabama.gov; llefleur@adem.alabama.gov; Glenda Dean [gld@adem.alabama.gov]; ssentell@sentell.net
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Subject: Black Belt Citizens Demand Help with Uniontown's Daily Sewage Crisis

Dear Office of US Congresswoman Terri Sewell, Representative Howard, EPA, USDA, ADEM, City of Uniontown and other distinguished individuals,

We, the Black Belt Citizens Fighting for Health and Justice, in order to form a better Uniontown, respectfully ask for your actions to stop the sewage crisis in Uniontown and to work collectively for clean water and sanitation NOW. We demand swift and immediate action by all responsible parties to address the daily sewage nightmare so we ask for the immediate halt of the daily sewage overflows at sprayfield #1. We ask for the immediate halt to the on-going plans of more sprayfield and wetland treatment methods. We ask discharging industries to be held accountable under law. We demand the immediate firing and replacement of Sentell Engineering with an honest and transparent engineering firm whose hiring is based on a democratic, town-hall style decision-making process. We demand the full accounting of the mismanaged $4.8 million USDA project. We demand a state-of-the-art treatment plant for Uniontown to properly handle heavy industry's wastewater like Harvest Select and SE Cheese. We demand that the local industries responsible for the failures at the sewage lagoon and sprayfield #1 contribute financially in building a state-of-the-art system. These industries, and not the citizens of Uniontown, should pay the costs for treating their waste. We demand the City's system able to meet future federal permit limits for the protection public health, property values, and long-term positive economic growth.

We feel our federal and human rights are being violated by the continuous improper and immoral activities by the City of Uniontown, Sentell Engineering, and the Al Department of Environmental Management. BBC's demands for the Uniontown wastewater treatment plant include but are not limited to:

Demands

1. BBC demand a federal intervention in Uniontown's sewage crisis. Local and state officials continue to ignore daily overflows.
2. BBC demand an immediate halt of the daily sewage overflows. BBC demand the halt to the on-going plans of more sprayfield and wetland treatment methods. BBC demand no sprayfields, no wetlands.
3. BBC demand the immediate firing and replacement of Sentell Engineering with an engineering firm whose hiring is based on a democratic, town-hall style decision-making process.
4. BBC demand a full accounting and investigation in the $4.8 million USDA project. We demand all people responsible be held accountable.
5. BBC demand Harvest Select stop exceeding its waste volume limits at the City's system. Uniontown should only allow the proper permitted volume input into the lagoon.
6. BBC demand a state-of-the-art waste water treatment plant able to properly take Harvest Select's wastewater and SE Cheese. BBC demand the responsible industries fund and construct the system.
7. We need the City's system able to meet federal permit limits and protect the rights of the residents.
8. We, the people of Uniontown, would like to be part of the solution process. We are currently excluded from any transparent inclusion.

FACTS

1. The Uniontown Lagoon, the City's municipal wastewater treatment system, and sprayfield #1 have been in constant federal violations with its permit since at least 1987.
2. Sprayfield #1 began operation in 1992 from ADEM's authority and has been in violation of its permit since its beginning. Sprayfield #1 has dozens of current holes that create large amounts of sewage flowing daily into Freetown Creek.

3. Harvest Select continues to overload the City's system since opening in 1991 contributing over half or sometimes more than the lagoon's designed capacity. No ADEM action has properly attempted to fix the overflows.
4. City sewage is collected and brought to the lagoon cells adjacent to the school and downtown area. Hundreds of lagoon overflows have severely impacted Cottonwood Creek and the community.
5. Sprayfield #1 was constructed improperly and illegally, the required hydrogeology reports were never completed in the initial construction to show that water would not soak or perk at that site. These same tests were never required for sprayfield #2 during the USDA project process.
6. The $4.8 million USDA project failed to fix any problems at sprayfield #1 and used some of the money to improperly construct sprayfield #2. Sprayfield #2 is unable to be used due to illegal construction.
7. The $4.8 million USDA project is a fraudulent-use of tax-payer money. Sprayfield #2 costs over $400,000, the money's gone and problems are worse.
8. The City, Sentell, and ADEM continue to propose sprayfields and wetland at the site of sprayfield #1 while 100,000s of gallons of sewage leave that site everyday. The sprayfield is permitted to enter groundwater only, the overflows continue to be illegal.
9. The direct dumping of wastewater into local streams is illegal and not authorized by their permit (AL0063657). However, after millions of wasted dollars recently spent on a new sprayfield system, both the Lagoon and Sprayfield #1 continue to overflow, sending raw or partially treated sewage into area streams.
10. The present history of legal actions between the city and ADEM date back to August 6, 2003. Over 13 years of enforcement actions but the problems grow. ADEM, Sentell, and the City have responsibility to act and fix the violations.

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Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

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