



**Transcript of Public Hearing
Proposed Phase III Expansion
Coble's C&D Landfill Permit No. 01-05
July 21, 2008
North Carolina Division of Waste Management**

List of Voices:

Watkins: Jason Watkins
Little: Geof Little
F: Unidentified female speaker
M: Unidentified male speaker
Jones: Matthew Jones
Gregory: Bonnie Gregory
Arey: Delores Arey
Butler: David Butler
Johnson: Ken Johnson
Gibson: Velma Gibson
Hensley: Sterling Hensley
T Johnson: Terry Johnson
Johnson: Ken Johnson
Knight: John Knight
Burke: James Burke
Allen: Anne Allen
Ward: Dean Ward
Owens: Roger Owens
Bowman: Hazel Bowman

Tape Length: 53 minutes, 25 seconds

Watkins: (Tape begins with meeting in progress) ... and waste disposal capacity, lateral expansion of the facility boundaries and a phase three lateral expansion of the landfill unit. This draft permit is now available for public review and comment. Any persons wanting to receive notice of a final permit decision should register with the division contact, Ming Chao. Please note, written and audio transcript of tonight's hearing will be made available on our solid waste website under this particular facility on the facilities list. If you have trouble or need help finding that document or otherwise need a copy and can't get it from our website, you can

contact any of us and we will be happy to get it. A written response will be made to all comments we receive and will be made available upon request from the division contact. I now call on any persons who desire to comment on the proposed draft. Can I get just a general raise of hands since I haven't looked at that sheet? Who wants to comment tonight?

Little: Let me go through the list here and make sure that you are on the list. I have Bonnie Gregory, Delores Arey, David and Sharon Butler. I've got several folks here that did not indicate, I just want to make sure, Ken Johnson, did you want to speak?

Johnson: [INDISCERNIBLE]

2:00 min Little: Jeff and Crystal Humble, would you like to speak? Bill and Rene Ward? Blake Sharpe? Velma Gibson? I'll give you a maybe.

Gibson: [INDISCERNIBLE]

Little: Yes, ma'am.

F: So that people at least would say they do not want to speak have the right to say if they're opposed or not opposed? I mean—

Little: This really isn't for convincing. This is for taking comments. This is your opportunity to express your concerns for the facility.

F: So that if a person who feels negative or has a concern and they don't want to speak they could just make one simple statement?

Little: If they wish, and you can also—

F: [INDISCERNIBLE]

Little: This isn't your last opportunity.

Watkins: You have approximately three weeks, two weeks of time left. Again, if it is a simple statement and you just want to write it on a piece of paper and hand it to one of us, that is acceptable. You do not have to speak publicly if you do not want to. However, again, by handing us a piece of paper it is then a public record, a public submittal as part of this process and can be reviewed later. You just don't have to speak in public.

Little: Sterling—I can't make out the last name. Hensley? Would Sterling like to speak?

Hensley: There are some things I would like to find out.

Little: Is that a maybe?

[Various voices, indistinguishable]

4:00 min Little: Eric and Tonya Brewer? John Knight is a yes. Is there anyone else that we missed? Yes? Terry Johnson. Did you sign in by chance, Terry?

[Various voices, indistinguishable]

Little: Is there anyone else who has not signed the attendance list?

Watkins: Okay, I will move forward with the definite yeses again. If you will step to the front of the room, here by this table, you don't even have to face the crowd. It is recording. We just ask that you speak clearly and loud enough that it can be recorded. Speak your piece. I would ask courtesy of everyone who comes up here to speak that the folks in the audience allow them to speak, allow them to have what they say. If you have opposing opinions and you have asked to speak, you can say whatever you want to the record once your time becomes available. But, again, we are not here to argue. We are not here to debate. We are here for

public comment only. Please make your comments and be courteous of your fellow citizens in this process.

F: I have a question.

Watkins: Absolutely.

F: If we have a question within our comments, does that take up our time with anyone to answer that question or do we just ...?

6:00 min Watkins: If you have a question that comes up and you think you have not been given time and you want to speak again later, if time permits we will allow you to ask that question and step back up and finish your comments.

F: One of my comments would be my question.

Watkins: Again, if you already know what your question is, I would advise you to pull Geof or Ming since they are going to know more about the permitting process themselves aside before you get up and maybe have that clarified. Yes?

M: Did anybody ask a question without making a comment?

Watkins: Absolutely. Again, when someone is speaking if you just want to raise your hand one of us can come back and answer your question. Or if you want to hold it until the end we can talk after the meeting. But, again, we are trying to move things along, make sure everyone has legitimate comment period.

Little: If you would like we can just informally stand in the back, and if you have a question maybe it will answer someone else's questions. We can just gather around. And just don't gang up on me too much, okay? We'll just gather in the back and just have a quiet conversation while we're taking comments up front.

Watkins: Okay, I am just going to start at the top of this page. I believe it is Ken Johnson.

Is that correct? Is that the name?

Johnson: Yes, sir.

Watkins: If you will step forward.

Little: Dean, did you want to be added to the list of speakers?

Watkins: Dean Ward?

[Various voices, indiscernible]

Johnson: Well, I didn't come to be first but I can. I have a question. We are expanding this landfill. Why do we actually need to expand this landfill? We have a perfectly good landfill at Saxapahaw, 400 acres plus. It takes everything he is going to take. Why do we need it? We don't need to privatize a landfill and that's what you are doing here. And the County Commissioners went through this not too long ago and they put it down. You did not privatize your landfill at Saxapahaw. It is perfectly controlled with the state. That's where the waste should go. Not here on an expanded basis. If he goes to the size he is going, he is plumb out of that little triangle. And that's going to totally hurt all people around. You have a problem with density of population too. All these houses were here a long time before Mr. Coble got here. A long time. And you definitely have a problem there because there is a large group of houses. We'll get the wonderful story of how it is not going to hurt anything. I don't believe I buy that. I know what sandrock does when you pack it. It leaks. And that's the liner he's using or some form of that. Now if you are going to use liner, you need what the county approves. Also if you are to go to taking all this poundage per day, how are you going to stand

8:00 min

that? How's a little community going to stand it? The highways are gone already. Can you actually afford this? Because when you get this, you got to rebuild the highways, and that is going to be expensive. What is going to happen if down the road, and it can't be too far away, something happens to our water supply? Who is going to provide the people? They are all on wells. And we are all supposed to drink that water. What's going to happen then? Who is going to provide for us? Who is going to bring us water? Is the ___ going to bring us water? I doubt if she would but it might. I think that's about all I have to say. All I got to say is you can fool some of the people some of the time but you can't fool all the people all the time. Thank you.

10:00 min

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: Okay, the next person on my list is Mr. John Knight.

Knight: I just have a brief comment, do I have to sit down?

Watkins: Yeah, go ahead. Do whatever you choose.

Knight: I'm John Knight and I live at 3610 Kimesville Road. And in my observation this landfill has already been expanded. My house is right near ___ School and there is garbage and trucking fill, waste, paper, sheetrock, plywood, from my house all the way down to the 5833 ___ Road. It is already there. The trucks going up and down that road are continually speeding, they go too fast, they are not under control. And it is, you know, it is a real—I mean, that aspect needs to be brought under control, is the delivery system going into this landfill. The other point that I would like to make is that there is already another landfill, Murray Landfill is at

Friendship Rock Creek Road. And I didn't check it on the map but I see that would be within two miles of this landfill.

Watkins: All right, Ms. Gregory?

Gregory: My name is Bonnie Gregory and I live within, ah, outside of the notification circle

12:00 min

and I would like to pick up where this gentleman left off. My background is in mechanical engineering and construction. And I know that when I request a dumpster the guys like to take their can and they're responsive, and we don't have to check what's being put in that. So my question is we are talking about debris on the side of the road, over the last six months we have picked up debris on the road. One of the biggest debris that is really question, I notice that you have left off, we are not allowed to take asbestos to the landfill. We have made complaints before about actual visual black bags with the word asbestos written on it being taken to this landfill. The other thing is we have pieces of transit or German shingles which is known to be a presumed asbestos material, we pick them up off the sides of the roads. The thing about asbestos, the German siding on your home, that is safe. And I am construction defect engineering person and I am an EI, I am an inspector, and I am a home inspector. And my question is how do you control the friable? About two weeks ago I was coming to the town of Alamance and my car was covered with what's called vermiculite insulation. Is anyone aware of what that is? They were carrying a house to the landfill to tear it up, I guess. Vermiculite insulation is an insulation that contains asbestos or could presumably contain asbestos. And you say, how do you know? It is on the windshield. It is the vermiculite, it looks like potting soil. And even if it is not

containing asbestos 90% of it does. And there is no regulation right now to make sure. I mean, I know if you are in construction, which I am, and debris and inspection, no one is regulating what is going here. Another thing that we have been seeing that is no regulation on, there are new companies that have _____ themselves, junk removal. Let us bring this small dumpster or container to your house and when you are moving out of your house everything, sofas, and this says that it is solely from construction and debris, how is a sofa from remodeling or a sofa debris? What about, we saw, we have pictures of trucks from like the junk removal, some of the smaller companies, where they are taking them and the consumers are actually getting these dumpsters sitting in their home and they are putting everything in them. For example, you think a hazardous material, you think that a whole lawn chair set which I saw the other day, piled up with lawn chair sets from 1920s covered with paint. What kind of hazard is the chemicals of that doing to our community? The other thing that I would like to request is wondering if anyone has done a traffic study on this community. Living in this community on Eulis Road, which we back up to everything, I was at my mother, who lives on Kimesville Road and I counted 15 to 40 trucks per hour zooming by her house so fast that I had to wait ten minutes to get out of her driveway on a rural road. Not, and you know you talk about the debris, you are talking about uncovered trucks, our only recourse as a community has been to call the highway patrol and complain. That's all we have. But how many times can the highway patrol stop the trucks and stop the traffic? So my request is before the agencies do this to this small community, this is a small community of families, a lot of reason

14:00 min

why people are not here is because they are elderly, they didn't read the notification in the paper, and this is a community they have known all their lives and they don't want to go against the family that everybody has grown up with. But the fact is that a lot of consideration has not been taken for the people. We live several, several miles away and it is nothing to stand in our yard and hear the constant grinding and noise of machines. You can't—and we are at, down on Chapel Hill Road at a party and they were, it is constant. The noise, the vibration, I know that some people have even said at times their houses vibrate and shake. And the other thing that we all know is that although regular business hours are supposed to be maintained we all can hear noises and things occurring. And so has anyone done—and so our final request would be, we need stronger regulations before this is considered, the impact of this community socially and traffic studies have not been done. Someone needs to stand out there and look and say, "How many trucks drive down this road?" My daughter got her license just the other day and I am terrified at the number of trucks that go through this small community. We basically have one or two small roads to get to this facility. We are talking about enormous expansion here that needs to be considered.

Thank you.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: The next on our list is Delores Arey. Ma'am, do you have a question you would like clarified prior to starting? If it will help you—

Arey: I guess not. As Mr. Johnson said, our number one priority is our water. Without water we don't have anything. When our groundwater is contaminated and I say

when, not if, because if there is no liner to speak of other than soil it is going to get through there. And we have nobody that is close. We are not next to a town or a city that is going to pump us water. Where will we get the water? Will Mr. Coble pay for the water? And I don't think so either. We did a petition and we asked the state to check just randomly check a few of our wells because the cost of the water testing is so high. And they didn't do it. But we pay tax just like he does and we were all there before he started. There has not been a new home that has been built in that area since he started. And I only know of one that has been sold other than to him. But the water thing, that is the main issue. Our property values are like down. If you are sitting in my living room in the wintertime looking out my picture window I am looking at a mountain of landfill. Nobody is going to buy my home if I wanted to sell it. Except maybe Mr. Coble. That would be it. And I have a mother and a handicapped brother next door and I can't pick up and leave anyway. She wouldn't leave, I couldn't leave. And like she said our neighbors are, a lot of them are very elderly. They have been there all their lives and they, they cannot come, a lot of them. They cannot come and speak for themselves and somebody has got to. I want to know about that compacted soil liner. If you dig a hole do you put other dirt down in it and just pack it if it is sand rock, I mean, I don't see that that helps anything. And I noticed on the website in 2007 there was a chromium, heavy metal testing that was high and didn't seem to disappear. I don't know how it disappeared. But nobody in our community was notified that there was any kind of danger. And nobody has mentioned anything about the mobile homes. That is a demolition

18:00 min

that is so noisy. You can't hear yourself think in a yard if they are pounding apart a mobile home. Or if they go down the road, I know one time they went down our road, took our mailbox with them, with the mobile home.

Another question is the sludge. The permit I know says he cannot dispose of the wastewater sludge. But it also says that with the permission of the division he can apply up to six inches as a soil amendment. I don't see a lot of difference there.

And so far he hasn't been turned down on many things. If he applies for it, you

know, is the sludge going to be there? Also you mentioned the sorting and recycling in there. Does that have to take place within the borders of the facility?

It doesn't say. And of the properties that were listed as approved for the facility on page four of the draft of the permit to operate, it states that there are 182.17 acres. This lists the property that Mr. Coble's home is on. Is he going to dump waste on his home or is he going to demolish a \$200-some thousand house? But that is listed, the deed, the page and the book, that's where his home is. I don't understand that. And we need to be clear on just how Mr. Coble is prepared to pay.

Watkins: You have one minute.

Arey: Okay. If we have a catastrophic fire and landfills catch on fire all the time. Or something else might happen and it would have to close, where is the money coming from to pay for what needs to be done? We are simple people, we need simple answers. We don't need complicated things, we just need to know, where is the money, where is it going to come from? We need to be told that. We don't

need to just sit there and wait for it to happen and the money is not there. That's what I have got to say.

Watkins: Thank you, ma'am.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: The next person on my list is David and Sharon Butler.

22:00 min Butler: I am David Butler and I live at 4731 Spanish Oak Hill Road. About a little over half a mile from the landfill. And just today driving down on Spanish Oak Hill Road, like driving down and obstacle course, had to dodge plywood in the road. There is insulation on the side of the road. There is Tyvek on the side of the road and that is only about two mile stretch. So you know to add to your point about debris from everywhere, it is all up and down the road. If this was a county maintained or owned landfill the approaches would be better looked after, there would be money to repair the roads when they get tore up and the roads are tore up now. And who is paying for them? The taxpayers, us, are paying for these roads to be repaired. And they are not being repaired all that well because we don't have any money. So, you know, we are driving down paved roads that are like washboards, potholes all over them and they come out and fix a pothole. Two weeks later here is another one 50 feet down the road from it so it is all beat up by these trucks going up and down the road. Trucks fly up and down the road. We used to have a very peaceful county, country road setting. You know, we would see a neighbor, you know, we'd stop in the middle of the road and chit-chat. Don't dare do that now. You would get run over by a truck heading down to the landfill. And, I mean, these boys are, you know, they are in the game to

make money and they are flying. They are not worried about the speed limit.

They are not—and they wouldn't want to hit us. But when they are going down a road at 65, 70 miles an hour in a 55 mile zone, going downhill, they couldn't stop if they wanted to. I mean, we pull out of our driveway, we tell everybody that leaves our driveway, stop, stop at the end of this road and look both ways, if it is between 7:00 and 5:00 Monday through Friday. Stop at the end of our driveway.

We used to, we never—yeah, we slowed down and, you know, do a quick head check and go on. You didn't have to worry about it because the traffic count was minimal. Now you got to worry about these trucks flying up and down the road.

One morning on the way to work my wife observed some lumber fly off a load and land not 15 feet from a child standing waiting for a school bus. I mean, there is constantly stuff flying off the road all the time. I mean, to your point about what goes in these dumpsters, anybody who has ever been around construction sites, you know what goes in these dumpsters and it is everything under the sun.

It is the KFC scraps from the workers, it is empty paint cans, there are paint cans that are full of paint, it is cleaning materials, cleaning chemicals, you know, a guy may come up and decide to clean his van out that day. Well, that's a handy dumpster. Man, he's chucking all sorts of stuff that he can't take to the one down in Saxapahaw legally, is going to go in that dumpster. I mean, you know, and it is not checked. I mean, who is going to be there to check it? Of course, who checks it down here at the county? But at least they have liners that halfway help protect us. Also sheetrock, I mean, it sounds like an inert material but I have been told that sheetrock gives off methane gas as it decomposes. And methane gas is one of

those gases that causes miscarriages among pregnant women. So we know there are bunches of sheetrock in that landfill over there. And the wells, I mean, how are their test wells drilled, how often are they monitored? Who monitors them? I mean, the county, you know, down here at Saxapahaw I know they have to check them regularly and that's by law.

26:00 min

Watkins: You have one minute, sir.

Butler: How often do they get checked over here? I mean, for many of us this is family land or it is land that we spent half a lifetime paying for. And we can't afford to go anywhere else, we don't want to go anywhere else. But if things go sour around here, he's going to have the means to go somewhere else. We don't. I mean, we don't want anymore dumps in our backyards. Let's deny this request. We don't need another dump. We got one down here in Saxapahaw like it was said earlier. We don't need another one. But more importantly, he does pick up the trash around the roads. I mean, he pays people to come around and pick up the stuff you know when he has time, I guess, or whenever it can be done. People pick up the pieces of trash. But can he pick up the pieces of our family? You know, if somebody gets hit by one of these trucks one day or if a child gets hit by a piece of debris flying off a truck. I mean, can we replace a child? Can you replace a loved one who gets hurt? I mean, to her point, there needs to be traffic studies. There needs to be a lot more done before this is allowed to go on. A whole lot more. Thank you.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: All right, moving forward, the next name I have is Mr. James Burke. Please step forward, sir.

28:00 min
Burke: My name is James Burke, I live at 5805 Foster Store Road. Second driveway from the dump, the closest house there is to the dump. Listening to everything I have heard here tonight, I think there has been a lot of exaggeration. I mean, I have been there for a long time. I have never seen 50 trucks in no hour. Fifty a day maybe. Not in no hour. As far as the stuff flying off the back of the trucks, that is not his fault. Get the police out there, these trucks are supposed to have covers on them. Why isn't anybody going after them? Well water? I drink well water all the time. I have got no problem with it and I have had my well tested. And, again, I am the closest house to the dump. That's about all I've got to say.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: The next name I have on my list is Mr. Sterling Hensley.

30:00 min
Hensley: About all I got to say is plain and simple. There is a cause for disturbance over it. I was worried at one time about, you know, maybe this is not as bad as it seems. I started coming out of my house and I smelled something that smelled like battery acid and I found out that where it is coming from is in that direction. There is plenty of places that the dump could be sited other than a residential area like what we have. You are talking about a whole lot of stuff that's going in there. Eventually it has got to have an affect. You know it. I know it. And you know. And what it is is all about money. I am not going to take any money with me when I leave here. And it don't matter to me what Mr. Coble makes. I don't care. But I don't want to get sick and die from something that I knew that could

happen. My place is not very big and it is not worth very much. But I couldn't get enough out of it to buy somewhere else, I don't think. And there is one other thing, and every one of us ought to think about it because that matters. The good Lord said I will bring ruin to the ones that bring ruin to the earth. Think about it.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: Mr. Terry Johnson?

T Johnson: I'll make it clear that I am appearing here as a citizen and not as sheriff tonight. I want to make sure I am correct, he's not increasing his tonnage but just space to continue the landfill. I live at 3439 Spanish Oak Hill Road which is probably two miles from Mr. Coble's landfill. I have had opportunities to be over that landfill on other claims and be able to see what's going on there. A lot of my neighbors in here tonight and I certainly hope you don't take this personal, but trucks that are flying up and down that road course Mr. Coble could not control that if he wants to. But I can tell you this, after what I heard tonight I guarantee you, we can try to control it. [Applause] Secondly, I have had them fly by my house but not 50 at a time. You know, I could count 50 trucks. Maybe around 20 a day. And that is not Mr. Coble's fault. Secondly, I have had an opportunity to be over at that landfill for other reasons. And I saw people sorting the wood, grinding the wood, sawing the mulch, loading them in the truck, things that I know probably and I probably should say might not even be done at the county landfill. I don't know. But I know Mr. Coble is trying. I have seen him in his green John Deere Gator picking up trash. And I also want you to know that a lot of that trash, I have never known beer bottles to come off there but that is all we find on our

32:00 min

road. There is some building materials. But once again I am not taking up for Mr. Coble but that's not Mr. Coble's fault. That is DMV's responsibility if these trucks are overloaded, not having covers. I assure you, I'll take myself out the citizen part and put in sheriff, that is going to be addressed from DMV and the Highway Patrol. Because it is my road that a lot of these trucks come up and down and I know a lot of my neighbors are saying is correct as far as the trucks flying. But Mr. Coble don't push the gas pedal on those trucks. And that is something we need to look at. There is a lot of problem, that, yeah, may come out of the landfill, but it is not Mr. Coble doing that particular stuff. Like I say, I have witnessed what he does over there as far as separating the wood, the metal, he has people that do that. And I was amazed because I thought that all they done was just push dirt over it and let it go. And I too was concerned. That is the reason I went over there and looked. I feel like that if we don't increase, if he don't increase the tonnage, it is still going to be going to that landfill.

F: Did you read—but this paper does say that—

Watkins: Please--.

T Johnson: But even if this increased tonnage, let me ask you, if you was a builder and you needed to get rid of your excess material, where would you take them?

F: We actually, the landfill, I guess we can answer ____.

Little: Mr. Johnson, if we can get you to continue.

34:00 min T Johnson: Okay. We are wanting the county to flourish. Buildings are being built, they have to have a place to dispose of their materials off the job site. And I think Mr. Coble tries his best to see that they are disposed of properly. As far as the Murray

Landfill, that is stumps only. That's what he told me. No other trash, just big stumps. So I am not here taking up for Mr. Coble. I just think we need to look at the total picture when we look at this stuff. And, yes, I live in the area and I see these trucks coming up and down the road, I don't like the way they fly, but that's not Mr. Coble's problem. We need to look at Alamance County growing and the need for this type of service. Because if you are a contractor you would understand that. And that's all I got to say. And I hope I haven't made any of my neighbors mad or anything. I am just stating how I feel as a citizen and not as the sheriff of this county.

M: You didn't make me mad but you sure did lost a vote.

T Johnson: I probably did. Let me tell you this, I speak my piece.

[Various voices, indiscernible]

Watkins: Again, we will move forward with this. If you want to speak with Mr. Johnson, if he wants to hang around a little afterwards, you can talk politics, the election, whatever you want.

F: Could you just clarify that it was stated that we would not be increasing tonnage but all the paperwork does say that it is a very significant tonnage. Can you verify that?

Watkins: Okay, again, capacity versus tonnage is viewed two different things. By increasing landfill space obviously you are increasing capacity. However you are not—there is no change from the existing permit that exists right now. The existing permit says that Mr. Coble can take up to 600 tons per day. What the new permit says also says that, there was no ask or request for an increase in the

amount of trash that could come, or debris that could come to the landfill on a daily basis. However, over a period of time obviously the capacity is increasing but the tonnage is not. That is clarification. Yes, sir? You had a question?

36:00 min

M: I got one question. How many trucks go in over there at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning? You hear the equipment running and you ____?

Watkins: I cannot answer that at this point in time but if you would like to address that with me after this hearing I will be happy to address that, sir. Okay? All right. Trying to move along. Again, folks, try and be as courteous as you can. Let these folks speak. If you want to talk to them after, if you want to debate which side of the line you sit on, whatever else, we can do that after the official part of this hearing. But let's get the official part done. The next person on my list is a definite yes. I believe it is Ms. Anne Allen. Is that correct? Ms. Allen, just step forward please.

Allen: Thank you for allowing me the time to speak. I live away from the community but I am here as an Alamance County taxpayer because it could happen in anybody's backyard. I think there is a lot of studies that need to be done before this is approved. Like she was saying, the traffic counts, whatever. The big studies I think need to be done are by the health department, by people testing the wells in the community. And also in finding the neighbors in the community that have cancer. There is a significant amount of people, some of them are not here tonight, some of them have passed on. Some of them are here tonight. And it's a significant amount of people in just that tiny little bit that have cancer and that is very scary. Is that coming from the water? The dogs get cancer. Where is that coming from? It is very significant, it is very scary, it could happen to any of us,

anywhere. But it is very scary that it is happening at this time and at this place
and I am just asking for more studies to be done because I find it is very unusual.

Thank you.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: All right, by my count it appears we have made it to the end of definite yeses and we had two that were standing on line, I believe, Mr. Dean Ward, if you would like to speak now, sir, feel free to come forward.

Ward: I have had an opportunity to visit Mr. Coble's landfill probably 12 or 1,300 times in the past 12 months. And I can tell you that during that time at Mr. Coble's landfill that I have had containers on one of my trucks that had been turned away from his facility for having waste in it that was unacceptable. In Mr. Coble's facility does have a screening process down there that they do look at containers. There are containers that are just not coming in out there and everybody thinks that they are being dumped out because that is not true. His guys are inspecting those containers and I don't have more than one occasion, I have had contaminants being car tires. Mr. Coble cannot take car tires. They are loaded back up on my truck and they go out at the landfill on my truck. And they ultimately end up being at the Alamance County Landfill specifically. I have personally seen Mr. Coble's crews monthly picking up trash along the road, Kimesville Road and Spanish Oak Hill Road. I have seen as far as 62 right there near E.M. Holt School picking up trash and I have also seen him demolish mobile homes. I know there was a lot of comment about the noise level of mobile homes.
And I have never heard any more noise demolishing a mobile home than the

38:00 min

40:00 min

actual loaders pushing the garbage—when I say garbage, construction debris—over in to the landfill area itself and into the cell. And I think, I don't live in the community. And I do visit the site regularly. You know, it is—no one wants trash in their backyard and I understand. But we have got to have a place for this construction demolition facility. Alamance County does have a facility but when you take construction to demolition to Alamance County it has got to be pre-sorted. You can't have cardboard and wood mixed together. And Mr. Coble hand sorts it out there. Puts cardboard in the dumpster and pulls all the wood over and grinds his wood and makes mulch out of them. Pulls his dirt off his tree stumps and stuff. And has top soil out there. So I think he does a fine job out there. And that's all I need to say.

Watkins: Thank you, sir.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: Ms. Velma Gibson, would you like to speak now?

Gibson: [INDISCERNIBLE]

Watkins: All right. Please come forward.

Gibson: Thank you so much. I don't really know much that is going on with legal things and everything that has been said. But Mr. Coble's landfill abuts to my backyard. I wake up early in the morning and I hear grinding and pounding and sometimes it stinks so bad—I don't know why he don't smell it living next door because right behind you, it smells sometimes like an open toilet. When the wind is blowing that way it goes blowing through my bedroom window. I am worried about my water, if my water is contaminated, who is going to fix my well? If he expands

42:00 min

any farther he is going to be digging in my backyard. He needs to—they need to put it somewhere else. There is plenty other places, more open places without the community, without the wells, without—I have COPD in my lungs. Am I—was I sick today because of his pollution or someone else's pollution? I see dust over those trees in my backyard from where he is putting, pushing those bulldozers and pushing dirt, pushing plywood, pushing sheetrock. And if he is cleaning up the roads, why is he not cleaning up in front of my house? He has never cleaned in front. And I am right on Greensboro/Chapel Hill Road, right behind him. He has—no one has ever come and cleaned in front of my road but me. And those trucks go past my house, bam, just like gone in 60 seconds. So I just, I am not getting into any of the legal stuff. I am just going by personal what is going on with me and the smell and the noise and the trucks speeding by the house. And if the trucks have been speeding by the sheriff's house all this time and it has bothered him, why has he not already said something to the people that could slow them down? Thank you.

Watkins: Thank you, ma'am.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: Eric and Tonya Brewer, would you like to speak? Is that a no? That's all I am showing on my list, you got one more? Okay. Will you sign? Okay, what is your name?

Jones: Matthew Jones. I am Matthew Jones. I work at Coble Sand Rock. I am the supervisor down there. I got roughly six or seven Spanish people that work for me. And they are picking out cardboard, metal, aluminum, copper, I am the one

44:00 min that looks in every can, every can. I have turned down Dean's tubs multiple times. I don't take tires, I don't take batteries, I don't take no human garbage. I go through it every day. You all say you all have dust in your alls backyard. I mean, well, and you say we have 50 trucks going in and out. Every since I have worked there we ain't had 50 trucks going in and out in an hour. If we did that would be down the road, backed up. Well, that ain't, you know, so. But also I live on Greensboro/Chapel Hill Road. I don't smell nothing. I don't know, I might have a stopped up nose or something. But I don't smell nothing—

[Various voices, indiscernable]

Jones: Yeah, well. Also I pick up, I been picking up the roads. I done it for the past two years.

F: Come to my house.

Jones: I'll come there tomorrow. I'll pick it up.

Watkins: Ma'am, this is the last warning.

Jones: But also I make sure that nothing goes in that landfill without—if I think it is something that should not go in there I make them take it out. I make either Mr. Coble come down there if someone has a problem, they want to take it out, he handles that. And that's all I got to say.

Watkins: Thank you.

Owens: I just got here and I don't know nothing about your rules.

Watkins: Okay.

Owens: I just see that on the 6:30 news and thought I would come by here.

Watkins: Okay. All right. [LAUGHTER] You hold just a second. I'm going to ___, sir.

Would you like to speak, sir?

Owens: Well, I just want to say a couple of things.

Watkins: Well, you absolutely have every right, sir. If you will please speak and then I will have you, if you will introduce yourself and then I will sign you in after—

Owens: I am Roger Owens. I live down here. Been living down here for years. Thirteen years. I am—I go to the old mill quite a bit and I have often said there is three most important things down here is Coble's landfill, the Snow Camp Post Office and the Snow Camp Market. But if I had to do without one of them it would have to be the market or the post office because I just got through tearing, I am restoring this old Coble Mill. All the stuff I took off of it I hauled to his place. It just as soon be buried there as it is buried on my property. It's just wood and nails. After the '96 ice storm I hauled limbs over there for weeks after weeks. And they would either have to be buried on my property or buried over there at his place one. And I don't have nothing to bury them. When I haul them over there to his place he buries them for me. So to me, it is one of the most important things down here. I wouldn't—it would really put me to a big inconvenience as often as I have to haul stuff away from my farm, I just took down 50-some acres of fence line and I rolled up the post with the wire and I hauled it all to his place. Now it would just as soon be buried over there as it is on my farm and I don't see how it is going to affect the water table. It is no further over there than it would have been on my farm if—I just think it is a great service to me. It's a whole lot

46:00 min

more convenient than driving all the way down to the county landfill. And I use it here just about as much as I use the post office.

Watkins: Thank you. If you will please sign that for me. Is that it?

M: [INDISCERNIBLE]

48:00 min Watkins: We have had no, I mean, I don't feel that this is the appropriate venue to discuss that particular question. If you want to address the way, what classifies as certain types of waste under the law we will discuss those after the fact and then if you want to make a comment in regards to this permit based on that answer we can address it then. Asking a question of what a staffing member does at that facility is not pertinent to whether or not this permit gets issued or the public comments.

M: I disagree because he got ____.

Watkins: Sir, if you would like to get up here and speak your rebuttal you have been given an opportunity and you are still given an opportunity. If you have got something to say and you want to say it in public again, now is your opportunity. If not, then we will close this meeting and if no one else wants to speak. And we can talk after the fact and we will discuss whatever you want to discuss. Would you like to speak?

M: I think ____.

Watkins: Question or comment?

M: Question.

Little: Let me ask, are we through with all the public comments, all the oral comments? Like I said, the close of the public comment period is August 5th, so this is not your last opportunity.

Watkins: Okay, at this point it appears no one else wants to speak publicly.

M: I'd like to make a public comment if I could instead of a question.

Little: You can submit them by mail.

Watkins: What is your name, ma'am?

S Butler: Sharon Butler.

Watkins: Did you sign in to speak?

S Butler: My basis for public comment is kind of in reference to Mr. Johnson saying we want to make a place for other people to dump their trash. Well, why, eight or nine other counties bring their stuff here. That bothers me. Yeah, we have a place for our folks but why everybody else? Why do we have to fill our landfill and how would you feel about people dumping your stuff from Wake County in your backyard? Do they take it to them to bury your stuff?

50:00 min

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: Again, one last chance. Anyone else that has not spoken at this point in time want to speak? You would like to speak? Feel free to come forward and speak. What was your name?

Bowman: Hazel Bowman.

Watkins: Hazel Bowman. Okay, ma'am.

Bowman: What I would like to understand is—

Watkins: Speak loud enough you can be heard on the public record.

Bowman: I'd like to understand is how deep in the ground that the stuff can go, and how can you all check it there? How deep in the ground can that stuff be buried and how do you all check it? That's what I don't understand about. I mean, I understand

that it is way, way, way, way, way down, which figures in the amount in that ____.

And I don't understand about the cancer. I was wondering if some of these people did have cancer earlier?

Watkins: Again, much like everyone else who has spoke on the record and has posed a question, you will get a written response with an answer to your question.

Bowman: You know, how do you know how deep that stuff went down in there? How deep his bulldozers are going in there. This top person, ain't now way he could, he could not check every truck that comes by my house alone. That don't count—he is not that fast. These are huge, huge trucks. It would take 20 men, 50 maybe. That boy couldn't, now he might check and I am sure he is doing well but what about those big trucks and how deep is he going? I seen a lot of them, I live trucks. And when certain buildings are broke down they do move them trucks up there two at a time. That one company, they run two trucks at a time. They run together. And you think two trucks here and two trucks here going all day long can't be that low, they can be a whole lot lower. Just like the old __, how fast did it go in there, things like that, if it went there. But I am saying, they can move those trucks fast and Griffin runs two men, we have lost a mailbox. And boy, it is dangerous and we got children and school is your worse time. You got to wait every morning, school. Because all those women are taking those children out there. You got the bus there. And I called Griffin about the rudeness of them trucks, at the school. Now I know it is not his fault but he does bring them there. And they come up dirt roads ain't no wider than this. Why are they using stupid dirt roads? A big huge truck. What about the bridges? Is anybody checking the

52:00 min

weight on those bridges? That's what I want to know. Those are the questions right there. Put them down then send them to me.

Watkins: Your questions will be answered, ma'am, thank you.

[APPLAUSE]

Watkins: Ok, obviously, I think there are some folks that have a multitude of questions and again we will be around for a little while and try and answer questions but at this point in time, I believe everyone has spoken that wants to speak we will close officially this hearing at this time. Again, as Geof said, anybody who wishes to further comment on this in writing can do so up until 5 o'clock on August the 5th, 2008. Let the record show that this meeting is officially closed at 7:36 pm.

53:25 min

Thank you. We appreciate you coming out.

[END OF RECORDING]