

**Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
November 11, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

**Present: Alan Dresser, Chair
Paul Roden, Member
Jeff Benedetto, LMT BOS Liason**

Public: Former EAC Alumnus Gail Stringer

Alan Dresser, the EAC Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the group approved the Oct. 12, 2015 meeting minutes.

Open Space:

Discussion of the Jennings Tract for development and Open Space was conducted. Concern expressed over the preservation of the Patterson Farm by other means including obtaining easements from a non-governmental organization such as Land Conservancy foundations or Bucks County.

The members of the EAC are still looking for recommendations for the Environmental Stewardship Award of \$500.00. It could be a group or individual citizen of any age.

Land Use Reviews:

St. Ignatius Tract: Alan Dresser is still following up on trying to save a red oak tree by trying to obtain another arborist's assessment on the viability of saving it.

Dobry Road Development Preliminary Plan (the old Gathers Site): Concerns raised by members of the EAC on the replacement of trees taken down or contribution to the tree bank fund. Proposed plan appeared to be too dense for the proposed site. Too much stormwater runoff and the lack of infiltration into the ground were issues raised during the project plan design review.

Makefield Glen (Pizza): Concern expressed about tree replacement and tree banks. Also stormwater runoff and car traffic flow patterns on the area.

ELCON Thermal Oxidation Industrial Waste Treatment Facility:

Paul Roden shared an update on the ELCON "thermal oxidation" industrial waste facility proposed for Falls Township. Jeff Benedetto, shared a copy of the letter submitted on behalf of the LMT Board of Supervisors to the PA DEP about the ELCON industrial waste facility siting and its possible impact on the citizens of LMT. Asking for information on the following: the route waste tanker trucks and railcar trains would possibly take in the area, the impact on the air and water if there was an accident, the contingency plans for hazardous waste response, and more information on the proposed site design.

Phase 1 approval for the site has been made by the PA DEP. This means that the location is outside of the 100 year flood plain and is not going to impact a watershed, wetlands or other environmentally sensitive area. ELCON has repeatedly said that they will only be accepting industrial liquid wastes from pharmaceutical, chemical and other manufacturing companies. The output will be water vapor and salts. No liquid or airborne wastes are planned with their "thermal oxidation" process which according to them is not incineration or burning.

There was a meeting of the Delaware River Basin Commission in Washington Crossing, where the issue of ELCON's Industrial Waste site in Falls Township was discussed along with the proposed natural gas pipeline. There are many groups and concerned citizens there voicing their opposition or support to the project. Unions were and have been well represented at these hearings with DEP because of ELCON's commitment to hiring union construction workers for the construction of the facility. Delaware River Keepers, Clean Water Action, Food and Water Watch, the Sierra Club, the League of Women Voters, and EcoJustice all were present along with ordinary citizens, government elected leaders from both PA and from NJ municipalities, downwind of the proposed plant. The Phase II application to PA DEP, which detail the size, shape and design of the facility, is expected January 2016.

Meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting on Wednesday Dec. 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. LMT BOS Meeting Room 11000 Edgewood Road, Yardley, PA 19067