

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3805

June 30, 2020

The Honorable Patrick McDonnell
Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

Dear Secretary McDonnell:

I write to express my opposition to the expansion of the Keystone Sanitary Landfill in Dunmore. As you know, the regulation, permitting and expansion of municipal waste landfills is a state issue. Nonetheless, many community members and local officials who have contacted me about the expansion have expressed significant concerns, including the potential impacts on the environment, the community's health and quality of life and traffic congestion.

Additionally, I have heard from constituents regarding the health and environmental consultation of the Keystone Sanitary Landfill expansion, which was completed in 2018 by DEP, the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. While I appreciate that this consultation was undertaken, I have heard from constituents who continue to have concerns with the process and the information that resulted from the assessment. Among other issues, constituents have shared that monitoring was only conducted over three months and did not include continuous 24/7 monitoring. Further, I have heard that additional data is still needed and that elevated levels of chemicals were identified within nearby communities.

Though the assessment was completed as the landfill currently exists, the expansion of the landfill would likely increase the findings of elevated levels of chemicals in the air within the nearby communities. I share the concerns of my constituents about the potential health risks that the expansion could pose, particularly for vulnerable populations like infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly and constituents with pre-existing health conditions.

As a result, I respectfully request that DEP deny the permit for expansion of the Keystone Sanitary Landfill in Dunmore (Application No. 101247-A142).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and I look forward to continue working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator