

# APPALACHIAN CITIZENS' LAW CENTER, INC.

317 MAIN STREET  
WHITESBURG, KENTUCKY 41858  
606-633-3929 1-877-637-3929  
FAX 606-633-3925  
[www.appalachianlawcenter.org](http://www.appalachianlawcenter.org)

STEPHEN A. SANDERS  
Director  
[steve@appalachianlawcenter.org](mailto:steve@appalachianlawcenter.org)

MARY CROMER\*  
Staff Attorney  
[mary@appalachianlawcenter.org](mailto:mary@appalachianlawcenter.org)  
\*Also Admitted in VA

WES ADDINGTON  
Deputy Director  
[wes@appalachianlawcenter.org](mailto:wes@appalachianlawcenter.org)

EVAN B. SMITH  
Staff Attorney  
[evan@appalachianlawcenter.org](mailto:evan@appalachianlawcenter.org)

August 16, 2016

Charles G. Snavelly, Secretary  
Energy and Environment Cabinet  
300 Sower Blvd.  
Frankfort, KY 40601

**RE: Resolution of 3/8/16 NOVs issued to Advanced Disposal Services, Blue Ridge Landfill**

Dear Secretary Snavelly,

I write on behalf of the Concerned Citizens of Estill County, Inc. ("CCEC") to respectfully request that two CCEC members be given a seat at the table in negotiations with Advanced Disposal Services. CCEC has appointed Thomas Hart and Robert Shaffer to represent the group in negotiations.

I am sure you are aware of the great amount of concern that residents of Estill County and their downstream neighbors have regarding the radioactive fracking waste that was illegally dumped in Irvine between July and November of last year. As soon as the news of the dumping became public in March, community leaders began meeting in Irvine to discuss their concerns and to strategize about how to best deal with this threat. The group formally organized as CCEC in June 2016.

CCEC held a public rally in Irvine on July 16, 2016. By that time, the group's concerns had coalesced around a central call to action -- insisting that the state's investigations and negotiations with the landfill be transparent.

To fulfill that goal, CCEC hand-delivered a petition to Governor Bevin on July 19, 2016. The petition was signed by 182 people and formally asked the Governor for the following:

1. Provide us with full access to all information in the possession of state agencies regarding the characteristics of the fracking waste; the amount of waste disposed of in the Estill County landfill; and the dates of the disposal of the waste in the landfill.
2. Initiate legal charges in a public forum against the individuals and companies responsible for the disposal of fracking waste in Estill County and

provide the opportunity to us and others interested in the matter to be fully involved in determining the disposition of the matter.

3. Initiate a process that ensures scientifically sound remediation measures are implemented that protect the residents of Estill County and others who may be adversely impacted from harm caused by the fracking waste, now and in the long term.

CCEC is frustrated that Governor Bevin has not responded to the petition.

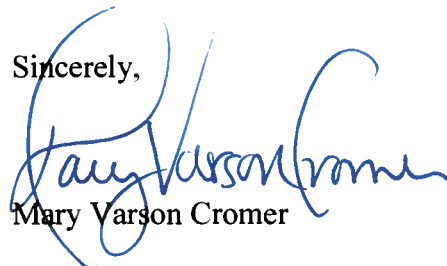
EEC's public statements that the result of negotiations will only be made public after a tentative agreement is reached with Advanced Disposal regarding remediation only heighten the group's frustration. The opportunity to comment on a settlement *after* it has been negotiated between EEC and the company is insufficient to ensure that the affected citizens are adequately protected in the remediation plan.

CCEC is disinclined to accept any agreement that is reached behind closed doors and without citizen input. The opportunity to comment on such an agreement after it has been negotiated but before it is entered by you cannot and does not cure that basic defect.

By inviting Mr. Hart and Mr. Shaffer to participate in the negotiations prior to reaching an agreement, EEC can overcome the problems that have already been created by the lack of transparency related to the state's investigation and get community support for the plans. Such community support is essential to ensuring that an agreed order is reached that will be accepted and will not be the subject of protracted litigation.

I hope that you will consider our request. Please contact me at any time to discuss.

Sincerely,



Mary Varson Cromer