

October 27, 2009

A. Stanley Meiburg
Acting Regional Administrator
EPA Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Meiburg:

As you are more than aware since your staff addressed us this year in the spring (see attached letter), the Dunlap Road landfill in Athens, GA has caused a lot of heartaches to my family, friends, and neighbors for over thirty years. I would like to ask again that EPA Region IV revisit our request to you and your staff to stop this cycle of injustice.

We were told in a written agreement with local government officials in 1992 there would be no landfill expansion. Yet here we are today with a permit application sitting in Atlanta for an expansion. Not only has our water been contaminated, our quality of life diminished, our heritage and wealth stolen, but we continue to be violated with a broken treaty now.

Your staff responded to us that you do not have the authority to do anything to help our situation. Why are we here today? Because all environmental health roads lead to EPA Region IV for us. There is authority to combat the evils that are at work for communities suffering under landfill operations. That authority can make the future brighter for our children and grandchildren who pay the ultimate price for collectively dumping our waste into landfills.

When communities struggle with health issues as we have which can be linked to the environmental hazard of a landfill, they exhaust themselves going here and there to this and that agency to get the right help. No cavalry has come for us although we have worked our way through the system, agency after agency, to realize they are not equipped to help us. In fact, they do more harm.

With EPA Environmental Justice, why isn't there a protocol to investigate our health issues, the videos, the stories, the complaints year after year rather than all that time we have wasted to get on an agency merry go round that finds us now dealing with an expansion that was promised not to be?

We come to you today asking what authority you have to assist us? We come to you today petitioning for that authority to stop this expansion and return to us the dignity that this landfill stripped away from the Dunlap Road Community.

Thank you,

Charles Nash
Dunlap Road Community Leader
Co-Chair
NE GA Children's Environmental Health Coalition

[OnlineAthens: News: 'The old home place' 04/08/01](#)