

Disposal Services Win Despite MAD

A \$200,000 performance bond and three major operating conditions have been tied to approval of a 20-acre landfill site in the Town of Vaughan.

That approval became official last week courtesy of Environment Minister William Newman.

His decision to accept the recommendation from his

Environmental Hearing Board represents a major defeat for 500 Maple Against Dumping (M.A.D.) ratepayers who have been battling since 1973 to prevent Disposal Services from using the site.

A certificate of approval has been issued for the landfill site located on the west half of Lot 26, Conces-

sion 11, in the Town of Vaughan.

The application, submitted on November 22, 1973 to the Ministry of the Environment, was the subject of considerable public controversy in the environmental hearing held at Maple this past March.

A number of concerns, expressed during the board

hearings, were subsequently dealt with at some length by the Ministry of the Environment during its overall analyses of the use of this site by the applicant.

Said Mr. Newman: "The certificate of approval has been issued with a number of conditions to ensure that the landfilling operation is carried out

without any adverse environmental effects."

Among other things the conditions require that:

— The operating period be limited to the normal working hours of 8 am to 6 pm during the weekdays and limited from 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays.

— On-going monitoring and reporting on the ground-water quality and the operations be undertaken and periodic reports by an independent engineering firm

on the same be submitted to the Ministry.

— The site be operated in strict compliance with an approved development plan.

— A performance bond in the amount of \$200,000 be deposited by the applicant to guarantee that funds will be available to correct any damage to the environment resulting from improper operations of the site by the applicant.

* * *

It was last June that M.A.D.

Spokesman Tom Connolly protested vigorously the environmental hearing board's recommendation to have the certificate of approval issued to allow the dumping on the 20-acre site.

Mr. Connolly was unhappy that the recommendations of the board under Chairman David Caverley accepted almost in total the evidence submitted by Disposal and rejected most of that by the municipality and its ratepayers.

"We can't buy this at all," he told "The Liberal" at the time. "The board is simply treating this 20 acre site as a continuation of what is already going on. This isn't a continuation, it's a beginning which will turn Maple into the world's largest garbage dump — a dump larger than the village itself."

Connolly was referring to an adjacent 900 acre site, also owned by Disposal Services, which is earmarked for the handling of 60 mil-

lion tons of Metro's garbage over the next 30 years.

"This decision simply paves the way for what's yet to come," said Connolly.

Mr. Connolly added that "we simply do not believe that the Disposal Co. will be able to, or ever intends to, fulfill all the conditions laid down by the board."

Concerns of M.A.D. include heavy truck traffic, noise, social disruptions, and pollution of the water table.



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