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May 13, 2024

Mr. Steve Breeding, Chairman Russell County Board of Supervisors 137 Highland Drive Lebanon, VA 24266

Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Landfill in Russell County

Dear Russell County Officials:

The Scott County Board of Supervisors are writing to express our concerns regarding the proposed private landfill at the old Moss 3 coalmine site in Russell County. While we understand the potential economic benefits for Russell County, we believe it is essential to consider the broader impact on the environment, public health, and neighboring communities.

1. Environmental Impact:

- The proximity of the landfill to Clinch River raises environmental concerns. The Clinch River is not only ecologically diverse but also a vital water resource for our region. Any contamination from the landfill could harm aquatic life, disrupt the natural ecosystem, and affect water quality downstream.
- We urge thorough assessments of potential pollution risks, including leachate leakage and groundwater contamination. The proposed landfill must be rigorously evaluated to prevent any adverse effects on the Clinch River and its surroundings.
- What are the plans for ensuring PFAS (forever chemicals) remain below EPA acceptable levels and plans for remediation if they exceed acceptable levels?
- If the water shed becomes polluted, how will Russell County help remedy or rectify the issue.

2. Health and Quality of Life:

- The landfill's operation could lead to increased truck traffic, noise pollution, and unpleasant odors. These factors may negatively affect the well-bring and quality of life for residents in both counties.
- Air quality concerns arise from the transportation of waste to the landfill. Dust, emissions, and potential accidents during waste transportation could affect the health of our communities.