



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Board of Water & Sewer
Commissioners

Ed Burt, Chair
James Morin
Don Cooper

Email sent 10/15/2021 to Town Administrator, Diana Schindler

The unmonitored Fly-Ash transloading processing within the Zone II Water Protected area is a red flag with the W&S Commission's responsibility to protect the water supply.

Because the IRAP process includes a component of Town support for the railroad's grant request, we've raised this issue as part of the IRAP discussion. Although, the issue can and should be addressed in a standalone, independent fashion.

We'd like the Select Board's help by requesting the following of GURR:

1. Provide a copy of the structural engineering report which was the only condition made when the Board of Selectman made the unilateral decision to approve the Fly-Ash request. (see attached letter.) If no protective barrier has been established as part of foundation's construction, one should be established.
2. Establish an ongoing reporting procedure to communicate the schedule and volume of fly ash being transported to the Board of Health.
3. Establish test wells between the fly-ash silos and the Mill River
4. Establish an emergency response plan which includes an engineered solution with the appropriate redundancies to address emergencies and excess, accumulated seepage. (Similar to the Grafton propane plan.)
5. Perform periodic ground testing to identify fly-ash to monitor the accumulation of ground level fly-ash. (Per new techniques identified by the EPA - Link to the report: https://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=303257&org=NSF&from=news)

Diana, the request made during last night's meeting was to ask GURR for a copy of the "sign-off from the geotechnical engineer" and the research, advice that lead the BOS to conclude that "the Town agrees with the Preemption authority for this project". (See attached).

With that information we will revisit the details of the overall request accordingly.

Any questions, let me know.

Thanks,
Ed