

# TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE

August 18, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wolf  
Governor of Pennsylvania  
Governor's Correspondence Office  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, NJ 17120

Re: Elcon Recycling Services Application

Dear Governor Wolf:

Elcon Recycling Services, LLC is proposing to construct a commercial hazardous waste storage and treatment facility in Falls Township, Pennsylvania and they currently are undergoing a Phase 1 siting application through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

As Mayor of Florence Township, I have grave concerns about placing a commercial hazardous waste storage and treatment facility in a location that could ultimately harm residents of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. As you may be aware, residents of Florence Township have had to endure foul odors from the Tullytown Landfill and the DEP just sent the operator a \$528,000 fine for offsite odors that impacted residents of New Jersey. Unfortunately, the people that have experienced the worst of the foul odors are residents of my community. To now place people in Florence Township and other communities in both states in relatively close proximity to a hazardous waste facility is unthinkable.

According to the Clean Air Council, Elcon has applied to receive 596 different kinds of waste. They will produce 800 tons of hazardous sludge per year and 5,000 tons of hazardous salts. Elcon claims that they will not have an incinerator, but rather they will construct a thermal oxidizer that will reach burn at an incredible heat temperature. At the public information hearing held on August 12<sup>th</sup>, Elcon's representative said they will only emit steam into the air, but he never took time to tell the public the contents of the steam. The Elcon spokesperson did not even cover the chemicals they are proposing to accept in their Phase 1 application or display an aerial of the proposed facility on the Falls Township site. This is not the best way to inform a concerned public on both sides of the Delaware River about details pertaining to a hazardous waste facility that could impact residents and generations of people in the future.

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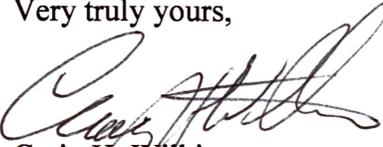


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This application by Elcon has been poorly vetted to concerned citizens so far. Many reasonable and legitimate questions were raised by residents of Pennsylvania and New Jersey at the public meeting last week, but few detailed answers about the nature and operation of the facility were explained to the public. At times, the public was told to wait until the next phase of the application process for details about the hazardous waste facility. This is the wrong way to approach a hazardous waste facility that could have far-reaching consequences for the public.

The residents of Pennsylvania and New Jersey should not have worry about their quality of life being irrevocably impacted by a hazardous waste treatment facility. On behalf of Florence Township, I respectfully urge you and the DEP to deny Elcon's request for a commercial hazardous waste storage and treatment facility in Falls Township.

Very truly yours,  
  
Craig H. Wilkie  
Mayor

Cc: Township Council