

**Resolution to Request that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation do an analysis of lung cancer patterns in the census tracts surrounding the Seneca Meadows Landfill as part of the Environmental Impact Statement required for the landfill's expansion application.**

Whereas census tract data from the New York State Department of Health for 2011-2015 and 2013 - 2017 has revealed a lung cancer cluster in the area around the Seneca Meadows Landfill and the gas-to-energy plant;

Whereas Seneca County's lung cancer rates continued to rank higher during 2016 - 2020, based on data from National Institutes of Health;

Whereas additional data is needed to identify which census tracts in Seneca County are driving these higher county rates in 2016-2022;

Whereas the Town of Seneca Falls is located in the lung cancer "cluster" labeled LU-H-17 by the New York State Department of health;

Whereas reporting suggests that the higher incidence of lung cancer is due to factors other than radon exposure or higher smoking rates;

Whereas sewer gas odors are being smelled inside businesses along the Route 414 corridor, in the medical offices, and in the hotel on Balsley Road due to the shared sewer line that also carries leachate to the Seneca Falls WasteWater Treatment Plant and these odors were recently linked to the leachate from the landfill;

Whereas a study by Mataloni, et al. (2016) concluded that exposure to H<sub>2</sub>S was associated with lung cancer mortality and respiratory disease morbidity and mortality; (See "*Morbidity and mortality of people who live close to municipal waste landfills: a multisite cohort study*". )

Whereas evidence suggests an association between H<sub>2</sub>S and acute respiratory infections in children and Seneca Meadows Landfill is located less than three miles from all schools in the town of Seneca Falls and Waterloo;

Whereas Seneca Meadows Landfill currently has over 70 million tons of waste in place and has applied for an expansion to add another 40 million tons of waste through 2040, increasing the permitted landfill height by about 70 feet, from 774 feet to 843.5 feet above sea level;

Whereas New York State has identified the Town of Seneca Falls as a disadvantaged community that bears the combined burdens of negative public health effects, environmental pollution, impacts of climate change, and also possesses certain socioeconomic criteria of low- and moderate- income households;

Whereas as per Seneca Falls Town Code Section 185-5 Landfill Permit Requirements, Section E. Conditions, it is the responsibility of The Town Board to impose conditions on the construction and operation of any landfill as may be necessary to protect public health, safety, welfare or the environment;

**Be it resolved that that in order to protect public health, safety, welfare, and the environment, the Seneca Falls Town Board requests that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation includes an analysis of the lung cancer patterns in the census tracts surrounding the Seneca Meadows Landfill as part of the Environmental Impact Statement required for the landfill's expansion application.**

Signature:

Date:

Michael J. Ferrara, Town Supervisor