

From: Pinkney, Dwayne L
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2010 4:50 PM
Subject:

Friends and neighbors:

Attached you will find three letters about the Bingham Facility. The first letter is a list of eight questions submitted to us by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), mostly concerning problems with the existing wastewater treatment system and how those problems may affect the NIH-funded construction project at the Bingham Facility. The second letter is our response to NIH, in which we acknowledge that mistakes were made in the past, but that the lessons we have learned from those mistakes have enabled us to develop an even stronger, more sustainable project than originally envisioned.

The third letter is the University's submission of payment to DENR for the civil penalty of \$16,614.28 (\$15,000 for the penalty and the rest for investigative costs) the agency assessed for past violations of our wastewater treatment permit, including the pond leak that reached Collins Creek. In this letter, we also express our intention to design and construct a new wastewater treatment system that will be both safe and environmentally responsible.

We will continue to update you on the design of an integrated water system for the Bingham Facility and other issues related to the site. Since some neighbors have expressed concerns that regulators, Orange County staff and county government officials have not been adequately informed about the facility, we wanted to let you know that we are now meeting regularly with staff members from both DENR and Orange County to update them on our progress. Orange County staff members and members of the Orange County Board of Commissioners recently toured the Bingham Facility site to assess the situation for themselves. All of these activities are designed to maintain transparency, and we hope they are a step in the direction of reassuring everyone that we are now on the right path with Bingham.

Sincerely,

Dwayne