

November 11, 2021

Mr. Charley Fritz
Deputy Director
TCEQ – Waste Permits Division
12100 Park 35 Circle
Austin, TX 78735

Ms. Laurie Gharis Chief Clerk Office of Chief Clerk, MC 105 TCEQ P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: Application of Transfer Station Solutions, LLC for Municipal Solid Waste Facility
Permit

Dear Deputy Director Fritz and Chief Clerk Gharis:

Texas A&M University—Commerce (University), joins the many other concerned members of the Commerce community in opposition to the application of Transfer Station Solutions, LLC (Applicant) for a municipal solid waste facility under Permit No. 2411. The proposed transfer station will be situated directly across State Highway 24 from certain University teaching and research classrooms and facilities and is unsuitable for an educational environment (See depictions attached). In addition, the University requests more information on the Applicant's plan for the transportation of the transferred waste from the proposed transfer station. The University is concerned that such transferred waste will be taken by tractor trailers from the proposed station north along State Highway 24 running directly adjacent to the main campus of the University in Commerce to the final waste disposal site, exacerbating the negative effects on the University. The University is in the process of assessing the overall impact that this facility would have to its campus community and will submit a more formal response detailing our apprehensions, and we wanted to register our complete concern over this proposed facility.

We are certain that allowing this project to proceed will result in at least the following issues:

- 1. Odors and noise that will impact the University's students, veterinary instruction facility, agricultural facility, animal facilities, and research projects;
- 2. Increased traffic directly across from the entrance to University facilities that will endanger those accessing these University facilities;
- 3. Visual impacts from the University, including from the upper levels of its campus buildings;

- 4. Negative impacts to the University's ability to recruit faculty and students and to promote its educational opportunities due to odors, visual impacts, noise and presence of stray trash;
- 5. Negative impacts on the University's to-be-constructed Agricultural Expo Facility to be located on the University's property approximately 2.4 miles north of this proposed site on State Highway 24 (See depiction attached); and
- 6. Potential impacts to the local water table and harm to the many local water wells.

The University has worked hard and invested significantly to create a special learning and research environment that is attractive to students, faculty and alumni alike. This environment, which is critical to a successful campus and contributes to the entire Commerce community, is directly threatened by the odors, noise, traffic and environmental impact of a solid waste facility in such close proximity. The University requests that it be considered a stakeholder in all considerations of this application given the University's property is within 300 feet of the entrance to the proposed facility. We request that a public meeting be scheduled so that students, staff and faculty may have an opportunity to provide you with their thoughts on the impact a municipal solid waste facility will have on the campus.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Our contact for this matter will be Mr. Travis Ball, Texas A&M University-Commerce, at (903) 886-5060 or <u>Travis.Ball@tamuc.edu</u>.

Sincerely,

Mark Rudin President

## Attachments

c: Office of General Counsel, The Texas A&M University System





