

## **URGENT Help needed**

## **Proposed Hazardous Waste Incinerator in Riverfront Community a Regional Threat**

Bristol Township, PA has been asked to issue two variances that would pave the way for an industrial hazardous waste incinerator to be built adjacent to the DOW Chemical facility on Route 13 in Bristol Township nearby the Delaware River. If built, every day, the incinerator will burn 60 tons of things like acetone, pharmaceuticals, aerosols, pesticides, herbicides, adhesives, antifreeze, plastics and more.

It is important we stand together, now before any approvals have been issued, and say "No!"

Incinerators emit dioxin/furans, benzene, formaldehyde, mercury, and other heavy metals, acid gases, and ammonia. Stack emissions include nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide (SO2) and volatile organic compounds (VOC), which form ozone (smog) and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution.



Bucks County in PA and Burlington and Camden counties in NJ are part of the 5-county Philadelphia area which is classified by the US EPA as "nonattainment for both ozone and PM 2.5," -- the installation of a hazardous waste incinerator will only exacerbate these air pollution problems (Clean Air Council). And of course, what goes up must come down – transforming air pollution to land and water pollution.

## What can you do?

<u>Attend</u>: Bring your friends, families and neighbors to upcoming meetings where elected officials will be forming their opinions and making their decisions.

We can demonstrate that residents from both PA and NJ do not want this inappropriate land use.

Come to these meetings early and don't get discouraged if the line is out the door – a line out the door in and of itself shows the decisionmakers the strength of our opposition. We need YOU there.

- Bucks County Commissioners Meeting Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 10:00 am Bucks County Courthouse, Community Room, 55 E. Court St., Doylestown
- 2) Bristol Township Council Meeting (note Agenda items announced on Monday Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. Public can raise any issue, such as the incinerator, during public portion on meeting)

Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 7:00 pm Bristol Township Building, Auditorium, 2501 Bath Road, Bristol

DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK 925 Canal Street, Suite 3701 Bristol, PA 19007 Office: (215) 369-1188 fax: (215)369-1181 drn@delawareriverkeeper.org www.delawareriverkeeper.org 3) Bristol Township-Zoning Hearing Board Monday, February 24, 2014 at 7:00 pm Bristol Township Building, Auditorium, 2501 Bath Road, Bristol

**Write:** Send a letter voicing your opposition to:

- Bristol Township Zoning Hearing Board, Chuck Clayton, Chair, 2501 Bath Road, Bristol, PA 19007
  (C/O manager@bristoltownship.org and mcclay2@verizon.net)
- Bristol Township Council, Bob Lewis, Jr., Council President, 2501 Bath Road, Bristol, PA 19007 (<u>blewis@bristoltownship.org</u>)
- Bucks County Commissioners, Robert G. Loughery, Chair, Bucks County Courthouse, 55 E. Court Street, Doylestown, PA 18901 (Comm.Loughery@co.bucks.pa.us)
- Be sure to cc: Delaware Riverkeeper Network at 925 Canal St, Suite 3701, Bristol, PA 19007

**Be sure to ask:** Please deny Route 13 Bristol Partners LP application (#132249) to construct an industrial hazardous waste burner in Bristol Township for the following reasons:

- It is contrary to local zoning codes. There are many other approved uses for this area under the existing zoning codes. Industrial hazardous waste is not one of them.
- An industrial hazardous waste incinerator is contrary to the goals of the <u>Bucks County</u>, <u>Delaware River Waterfront Plan and Revitalization Program</u> (August, 2003) wherein "preparing an implementable strategy to enhance public access to the Delaware River waterfront and provide for sustainable economic development" is stated to be the "key challenge of the Bucks County waterfront plan." (Section One, page 1)
- Incineration, in spite of regulations and air quality measures, still emit toxins and fine particulate matter into our air. Bristol Township, Bucks County and the region already is already in ""nonattainment for both ozone and PM 2.5." For the health of current and future residents of this area, a new source of toxic air pollution should not be allowed.
- Air pollution for industrial waste burners can, and often do, cause health impacts to residents and workers in both the host community and neighboring communities. Air pollution is a particular threat to vulnerable populations such as persons with preexisting diseases like asthma or emphysema, the very young, or the very old.
- The Delaware River, its tributary waterways and aquifers that interface with the Delaware provides drinking water for 17 million people, including residents throughout Bucks County, Philadelphia and South Jersey. Toxic emissions from the industrial hazardous waste incinerator will contribute a new source of pollution that will reduce water quality in this critical water supply.
- The reach of River proposed for the new hazardous incinerator is important spawning ground for endangered Shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon, whose populations have already been adversely affected by water pollution and should not be subjected to a new source.
- Bald eagles and Peregrine Falcons populations are steady, but, according to NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, there remain concerns about the effects of persistent contamination in the food web on the population. (NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife, NJ Bald Eagle Project 2013 and Peregrine Falcon Research and Management Program in NJ, 2012). Adding a new source of pollution to this reach of river important for these raptor species is unwise and unfair.