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THE NEW SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEIS PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE SOUTH BRONX CONVERTED
MARINE TRANSFER STATION
HELD AT: 333 East 151st Street
Bronx, New York
December 6, 2004, 6:25 p.m.

Reported by:
MARC RUSSO
Job#: 167212

<div>Page 2</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 A p p e a r a n c e s:</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 HARRY SZARPANSKI, P.E., Assistant Commis-</p> <p>5 sioner,</p> <p>6 DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION, 44 Beaver Street,</p> <p>7 12th</p> <p>8 floor, New York, New York 10004</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 WALTER CZWARTACKY, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 SARAH DOLINAR, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 ALSO PRESENT: JORGE FREIRE, HOWARD FREIRE,</p> <p>15 Spanish Interpreters</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> </div>	<div>Page 4</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 MR. SZARPANSKI: Good</p> <p>3 evening everybody. My name is</p> <p>4 Harry Szarpanski. I'm Assistant</p> <p>5 Commissioner of Long Term Export at</p> <p>6 the Department of Sanitation.</p> <p>7 With me tonight are Sarah</p> <p>8 Dolinar and Walter Czwartacky of</p> <p>9 the Department. Also we have Dan</p> <p>10 Harkins, Susan Raila and Alan Cohen</p> <p>11 of Henningson, Durham & Richardson,</p> <p>12 HDR. HDR is the firm responsible</p> <p>13 for conducting the environmental</p> <p>14 impact statement for this project</p> <p>15 and that's the subject of our</p> <p>16 meeting tonight.</p> <p>17 We also have representatives</p> <p>18 from Ecology and Environment, they're</p> <p>19 the people who helped us set up</p> <p>20 this meeting.</p> <p>21 As you may know, in October</p> <p>22 of 2004, the Department issued a</p> <p>23 New York City comprehensive solid</p> <p>24 waste management plan for the next</p> <p>25 20 years. As required, the new</p> </div>
<div>Page 3</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 PUBLIC SPEAKERS: PAGE:</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 Paula Luria Caplan 16</p> <p>5 George Torres 26</p> <p>6 Marian Feinberg 30</p> <p>7 Harry J. Bubbins 44</p> <p>8 Silkia Martinez 51</p> <p>9 Marta Rodriguez 55</p> <p>10 Elena Conte 57</p> <p>11 Sharon Joslyn 70</p> <p>12 Timothy J.W. Logan 72</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> </div>	<div>Page 5</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 SWMP, as we refer to it, has been</p> <p>3 submitted as a draft to the City</p> <p>4 Council.</p> <p>5 The new SWMP is proposed to</p> <p>6 replace the current SWMP and must</p> <p>7 be approved by the Council before</p> <p>8 it can be submitted to the New York</p> <p>9 State Department of Environmental</p> <p>10 Conservation for final</p> <p>11 approval.</p> <p>12 The new SWMP plans for the</p> <p>13 management of all of the solid</p> <p>14 waste generated in the City over</p> <p>15 the next 20 years and is supported</p> <p>16 by a draft environmental impact</p> <p>17 statement, or draft EIS on which we</p> <p>18 will take comments this evening.</p> <p>19 My comments tonight will be</p> <p>20 brief. I will make a short power</p> <p>21 point presentation before the</p> <p>22 public portion of the meeting</p> <p>23 begins. Copies of my statement and</p> <p>24 presentation will be available at</p> <p>25 the end of the meeting.</p> </div>

1
2 And Should you require the
3 assistance of a Spanish
4 interpreter, please let the
5 individuals at the front table
6 know.
7 Because the real focus of
8 this public hearing will be your
9 comments, if you plan to make a
10 statement for the record, please
11 take a moment to fill out a speaker
12 sign up sheet and submit it to the
13 individuals sitting at the front
14 table. You will be assigned a
15 number and I will call your name
16 when it is your turn to speak.
17 Note that elected officials,
18 who may be attending many meetings
19 on behalf of their constituents on
20 any given night, will have an
21 opportunity to speak first.
22 We're interested in making a
23 complete record of your comments,
24 so please state your name clearly
25 and slowly for the stenographer.

1
2 So that we can hear everyone
3 who wants to speak, I typically
4 hold people's comments to three
5 minutes, but I think we will allow
6 people to speak a little longer
7 tonight, it doesn't look like
8 there's a lot of speakers here.
9 Thank you for coming and
10 I'll now begin my short power point
11 presentation.
12 (Showing slides) This is a
13 public hearing on the City's draft
14 environmental impact statement for
15 the solid waste management plan.
16 Both the SWMP and the DEIS
17 were issued by the Department and
18 can be found on our website. It's
19 also available at public
20 repositories in the Bronx and in
21 other boroughs.
22 The City Council also
23 intends to hold public hearings on
24 the SWMP, probably in January.
25 There are three basic

1
2 components included in the SWMP.
3 It covers recycling, it covers
4 Department of Sanitation-managed
5 waste and commercial waste.
6 With respect to recycling,
7 the goals are to hold down the cost
8 of recycling and expand barge
9 transport of recyclables; to meet a
10 25 percent goal for the DSNY
11 Curbside Program by 2007 and by
12 that same date, meet a 35 percent
13 recycling goal for all
14 Department-managed waste.
15 The specific initiatives for
16 recycling are: To enter into a
17 20-year contract for metal, glass
18 and glass and plastic processing
19 and marketing and for a new
20 recycling processing facility at
21 the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal;
22 to enhance composting and waste
23 reduction programs; develop an
24 electronics recycling program and
25 establish a recycling education

1
2 center and acceptance facility at
3 the Gansevoort Peninsula or at an
4 alternative site in Manhattan.
5 The Gansevoort site is a
6 site where we once operated a
7 marine transfer station and it's
8 just below 14th Street on the West
9 Side.
10 With respect to Bronx
11 recycling, in July of 2004, we
12 restarted the weekly Bronx
13 recycling collection. The
14 Department trucks collect Bronx
15 recyclables and right now take them
16 to our processors in the Bronx
17 acceptance facility where they are
18 shipped to Brooklyn. Eventually
19 they will be barged to the new --
20 sorry, right now they're shipped to
21 New Jersey, eventually they will be
22 barged to the new Brooklyn
23 facility.
24 Also, composting began again
25 in the fall of 2004 at Ferry Point

1
2 Park and Soundview Park. We also
3 restored full funding to the New
4 York Botanical Gardens in the Bronx
5 for composting information
6 programs.

7 With respect to
8 Department-managed waste, our goals
9 are to end the use of long-haul
10 trucks for waste transport and
11 export more waste by barge or rail;
12 to stabilize waste transport costs;
13 distribute the waste transfer
14 facilities throughout the City and
15 containerize waste to get more
16 transport disposal options.

17 The specific elements of the
18 long-term export program are: Use
19 of private transfer stations for
20 barge or rail export of
21 containerized waste on the Bronx
22 and from the Brooklyn and Queens
23 communities that we're once served
24 by Greenpoint and the South Bronx
25 marine transfer stations.

1
2 With respect to commercial
3 waste, limit new or expanded
4 transfer stations in communities
5 where they are already
6 concentrated; establish new
7 operational regulations to reduce
8 noise, odor and dust at private
9 waste transfer stations; study how
10 to lessen waste truck transport on
11 truck routes through residential
12 areas; expand barge and rail export
13 of commercial waste through
14 DSNY-contracted transfer stations;
15 export some commercial waste
16 through the converted marine
17 transfer stations and offer the
18 59th Street Marine Transfer Station
19 in Manhattan for export of
20 commercial waste.

21 The draft EIS evaluates the
22 environmental consequences of sites
23 and facilities that are, or may be,
24 part of a proposed action. It also
25 looked at sites and facilities as

1
2 The complete construction of
3 the Staten Island Transfer Station
4 and begin export of Staten Island
5 waste by rail; enter into a
6 long-term contract for disposal of
7 a portion of the Manhattan waste at
8 the Essex County Resource and
9 Recovery Facility in Newark, New
10 Jersey.

11 THE AUDIENCE: That's an
12 incinerator everybody, who doesn't
13 know what that means.

14 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
15 for the clarification.

16 And build four new marine
17 transfer stations at existing
18 sites. Those sites include the
19 East 91st Street in Manhattan, the
20 North Shore site in Queens,
21 Hamilton Avenue and the Southwest
22 Brooklyn site in Brooklyn and we
23 are not planning to rebuild the
24 Hunt's Point Marine Transfer
25 Station in the Bronx.

1
2 alternatives. It identified the
3 things the City would do to avoid
4 potential significant adverse
5 impacts and it also meets the City
6 and State environmental review
7 requirements.

8 This is just a map showing
9 the various wastesheds and the
10 facilities that are going to have
11 to be served by them.

12 In the dark it shows the two
13 private facilities that we plan to
14 negotiate with. And it also shows
15 private facilities in Brooklyn and
16 Queens and the former marine
17 transfer stations in the other
18 boroughs and the Staten Island
19 transfer station in Staten Island.

20 With respect to the Bronx
21 specifically, we're looking to
22 enter into a long term contract
23 with one or both private facilities
24 for export of barge -- for export
25 of Bronx waste by rail.

1
2 We've got the Allied Waste
3 Service facility at 920 East 132nd
4 Street. For that facility, there's
5 no expansion of the existing
6 permits. The facility proposes to
7 truck containers to the nearby
8 Oak Point Rail Yard which is
9 located at Oak Point Avenue and Barry
10 Street.

11 For the Waste Management
12 Facility at the Harlem River Yards,
13 there's no expansion required and
14 rail exists on the site.

15 The advantages of this plan
16 are that both facilities are
17 already operational and receiving
18 all Bronx residential waste.

19 If a portion of the
20 Department-managed waste continues
21 to go to both facilities, then all
22 waste going to both facilities will
23 be exported by rail.

24 This is just a map of the
25 Bronx showing the location of the

1
2 environmental review showed no
3 significant adverse impacts and the
4 DSNY truck traffic showed no
5 significant off-site air, noise or
6 traffic impacts.

7 The various ways that you
8 can provide us with your comments
9 are, you can speak tonight or you
10 can fill out a comment sheet or
11 submit a written statement. And if
12 you choose to mail it in to us at
13 my address or our consultant's
14 address, please do so no later than
15 January 24th.

16 Thank you and I will now
17 open it up to the speakers.

18 Our first speaker is Paula
19 Caplan representing the Bronx
20 Borough President.

21 MS. LURIA CAPLAN: Good
22 evening, my name is Paula Luria
23 Caplan and I'm speaking on behalf
24 of Bronx Borough President Adolfo
25 Carrion.

1
2 transfers stations in the Oak Point
3 Yard.

4 With respect to the
5 environmental review that was
6 conducted for the East 132nd Street
7 facility, traffic and air quality
8 found no significant traffic
9 impacts with track signal changes
10 in place; no significant off-site
11 impact for mobile air quality.

12 The evaluation included the
13 trucking of containers and return
14 the empties between the East 132nd
15 Street site and the Oak Point Rail
16 Yard.

17 Odor and noise, the
18 environmental review showed no
19 significant odor impacts. The Oak
20 Point Rail Yard is permitted to
21 receive waste in sealed containers
22 and an off-site noise analysis
23 showed no significant impacts.

24 With respect to the Harlem
25 Yard Transfer Station, the

1
2 "This solid waste management
3 plan for a containerized water and
4 rail-based export strategy based on
5 the City's marine transfer system,
6 emphasizing borough
7 self-sufficiency, is a positive step
8 forward. I congratulate Mayor
9 Bloomberg and the Department of
10 Sanitation for their extensive
11 effort.

12 I applaud the following
13 features: Appropriately
14 recognizing that the Bronx Marine
15 Transfer Station should not be
16 reopened.

17 Acknowledging the need to
18 equitably distribute responsibility
19 for both commercial and
20 sanitation-managed waste among the
21 borough. A Manhattan transfer
22 option should help to redress the
23 imbalance among boroughs.

24 Allowing and encouraging
25 private carters to deliver

1
2 commercial waste to the four
3 converted marine transfer stations,
4 thereby combining the residential
5 and commercial streams in a
6 comprehensive system.

7 Entering a 20-year recycling
8 contract with Hugo Neu Corporation
9 to develop a metal, glass and
10 plastic processing facility which
11 will export processed materials by
12 barge.

13 Recently enacting siting
14 rules for commercial waste transfer
15 stations and proposing operational
16 regulations to reduce emissions.

17 My concerns about the DEIS
18 and by extension, the solid waste
19 management plan, concern omissions
20 and underestimating of
21 environmental impacts as follows:

22 One, while I agree that the
23 Harlem River Yard and the 132nd
24 Street site are preferred locations
25 for a Bronx transfer station, the

1
2 particulate matter at 132nd Street.
3 In the American Marine Rail
4 case, an Administrative Law Judge
5 rejected PM10 as an inadequate
6 measure to capture small particulates
7 that cause respiratory problems, in
8 favor of the finer PM 2.5 screen.
9 Given the high level of asthma in
10 the South Bronx, the highest
11 monitoring standards should be
12 applied.

13 Two, while the draft solid
14 waste management plan does not
15 include a barge-to-rail operation
16 in the Bronx, the DEIS includes
17 that option. Bringing containers
18 of waste from other boroughs to the
19 Harlem River Yard would contradict
20 the plan's fair share objectives
21 and would not be acceptable to me
22 or to my constituents.

23 We already endure odor and
24 vermin while rail cars gather in
25 the Harlem River and Oak Point

1
2 DEIS inadequately analyzes these
3 properties.

4 The DEIS declines to fully
5 evaluate the environmental impacts
6 of export strategies for either
7 site because these facilities
8 received negative declarations
9 in previous reviews.

10 I fundamentally object to
11 any claim that a waste station in
12 an urban location has no adverse
13 environment effects. It is just
14 disingenuous to claim that a
15 facility handling thousands of tons
16 of putrescible garbage has no
17 impacts. Few uses in New York City
18 are more noxious. An EIS must
19 identify those impacts in order to
20 offer mitigation strategies.

21 The DEIS contains
22 insufficient information for a
23 comparative assessment between the
24 Harlem River Yard and 132nd Street.
25 If does not analyze the 2.5 micron

1
2 Yards awaiting assemblage of a
3 train.

4 Three, the plan fails to
5 identify the disposal sites, a
6 crucial element for plan
7 feasibility. Absence of a disposal
8 plan renders the plan highly
9 speculative.

10 Fourth, I commend the City's
11 aim to achieve an ambitious 25
12 percent recycling rate through its
13 Curbside Program by 2007 and 70
14 percent recycling rate for the
15 combined residential and commercial
16 waste stream by 2015. But the plan
17 does not show how that goal will be
18 attained. Assuming that
19 construction and demolition debris
20 and fill material constitute a
21 large share of the 70 percent,
22 facilities that handle them must be
23 addressed.

24 Accomplishing the 70 percent
25 goal will also require a serious

1
2 composting program for food waste.
3 Five, the plan barely
4 mentions waste prevention. A waste
5 reduction strategy is essential to
6 the ultimate success of a waste
7 management plan.

8 Six, the DEIS undervalues
9 the correlation between diesel
10 fumes and asthma. Fine particulate
11 matter and diesel emissions is a
12 proven cause of asthma, lung cancer
13 and heart disease. Long idling at
14 traffic lights and odors from waste
15 haulers exacerbates diesel impacts.

16 The South Bronx endures an
17 extremely high rate of asthma and
18 the highest pediatric
19 hospitalization rate in the City.
20 Its children suffer from asthma at
21 a rate more of more than double the
22 national average.

23 A 22 percent reduction in
24 traffic volume was accompanied by a
25 41 percent reduction in acute

1
2 otherwise.
3 In addition, Randalls
4 Island, which is undergoing a major
5 overhaul to become a premier public
6 recreation area, lies a stone's
7 throw across the Bronx Kill from
8 the Harlem River Yard. Impacts on
9 both Port Morris and Randalls
10 Island must be addressed
11 and corrected.

12 Eight, while I welcome the
13 plan to not open the South Bronx
14 MTS, I object to the assertions in the
15 analysis. The DEIS remarks that a
16 converted South Bronx MTS would be
17 compatible with its industrial
18 surroundings and not be expected to
19 have a significant adverse impact
20 on residents who are on the
21 adjacent Hunts Point Market uses
22 related to air quality or odor.
23 These statements ignore the impact
24 of truck traffic on local streets
25 and diesel and garbage fumes.

1
2 asthma when Downtown Atlanta
3 streets were closed to traffic
4 during the Olympics.

5 Seven, the DEIS fails to
6 analyze the impact on the proposed
7 mixed use, residential and
8 industrial districts adjacent to
9 the Harlem River Yard. It
10 inaccurately states that
11 development related to rezoning in
12 Port Morris is projected to occur
13 by 2014 at the earliest, while in
14 fact 2014 is the year by which the
15 City Planning Department projects
16 full build-out.

17 The expanded Port Morris
18 mixed use district abuts the Waste
19 Management facility. Mitigation
20 measures and vigilant regulation of
21 waste operations in the Harlem
22 River Yard are essential. Yet the
23 DEIS denies impacts beyond the
24 property's borders. Port Morris
25 residents and workers can attest

1
2 Prior to the MTS closing in
3 June 1996, rodents attracted by the
4 waste posed a major Sanitation
5 problem for the food market. Since
6 the MTS closing, the rodent
7 population has decreased markedly.

8 I must set the record
9 straight: Garbage handling is not a
10 compatible use adjacent to a major
11 food center.

12 The DEIS further states that
13 under the no-build scenario, the
14 site would remain Sanitation
15 Department property and the
16 existing MTS would remain standing.
17 This contradicts the Hunts Point
18 Vision Plan recently completed by a
19 task force formed by Mayor
20 Bloomberg and me.

21 Furthermore, within the
22 dynamic of a constantly-changing
23 City, one cannot assume that an
24 abandoned City facility will remain
25 unused.

1
2 In conclusion, I applaud the
3 overall policies and concepts in
4 the draft solid waste management
5 plan, but I find serious
6 inadequacies in the environmental
7 review. My ultimate support for
8 the plan will depend on the actual
9 site or sites selected for the
10 export of Bronx waste in relation
11 to the Citywide system."

12 Thank you.

13 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
14 for your comments.

15 Our next speaker is George
16 Torres representing Council Member
17 Jose Serrano.

18 MR. TORRES: Hello, my is
19 George Torres, I'm here
20 representing Council Member, the
21 office of Council Member Jose
22 Serrano. And I think I'll reserve
23 most of my comments with the fact
24 that there will be a Council
25 Hearing for the Councilman to make

1
2 Allied site.

3 For the Harlem River Rail
4 yard I think it's a little easier
5 just to do truck-to-rail in that
6 facility.

7 I mean, we must take into
8 consideration the impact that just,
9 as the Borough President stated,
10 the negative impacts that would go
11 in there.

12 And then the final thing
13 for, to my comment would be there
14 was talk, I guess you guys could
15 answer this, developing an
16 intermodal facility, should the
17 other waste transfer station go to
18 plan, not to develop fully the
19 Harlem River Rail Yard and maybe
20 you can speak to that.

21 Is that a reality or is that
22 something that you guys are not
23 planning on doing? And that's
24 basically just if you could answer
25 that.

1
2 statements.

3 But there was some concern
4 over the vagueness of the plan for
5 the SWMP and I think that some of
6 the things that will lead to a more
7 smoother meeting tonight would be
8 if you guys could speak on the plan
9 in terms of basically almost
10 everything, where the garbage ends
11 up, the rules for selecting of the
12 contractor, or if there's going to
13 be an RFP in terms of which site
14 will get the garbage, whether it's
15 Allied or the Harlem River Rail
16 Yard.

17 I think in our professional
18 opinion that not both facilities
19 should receive, but there should be
20 only one. And I would go even
21 further and say that while both
22 sites served are preferred, the
23 Harlem River Rail Yard or the
24 Allied site, you would need to do
25 truck-to-truck-to-rail for the

1
2 MR. SZARPANSKI: As you may
3 know, the forum for this meeting is
4 to receive comments from you. We
5 will answer all of the questions
6 you have in writing.

7 MR. GEORGE TORRES: Okay,
8 then that's it. And then we'll, I
9 guess we'll submit more detailed
10 questions.

11 And at what point will you
12 respond? You will respond to
13 people individually or as a group
14 or?

15 MR. SZARPANSKI: No, just as
16 we commented and responded to
17 comments for the draft scoping
18 documents, we will publish both on
19 CD form and it will be on our web
20 page where we'll provide our full
21 responses.

22 MR. GEORGE TORRES. Okay.

23 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
24 for your comments.

25 Our next speaker is Mary

1
2 Feinberg.

3 MS. MARY FEINBERG: Hi, I'm
4 speaking tonight for my colleague
5 Carlos Alicea who actually prepared
6 this but wasn't feeling too well so
7 he asked me to fill in for him.

8 I'm going, these are sort of
9 general comments, we have technical
10 comments on the way which we will
11 be submitting to you further. And
12 I have a couple of comments that
13 are sort of based on the
14 presentation that you made that I
15 want to add to it that are sort of
16 nontext.

17 The New York city waste
18 management plan as proposed by the
19 Department of Sanitation is based
20 on a wrong underlying principle of
21 exporting garbage.

22 This principle of exporting
23 garbage is misguided because it
24 will impose environmental burdens
25 in communities where the landfills

1
2 are located to receive New York
3 City waste.

4 Historically it has been
5 demonstrated that such communities
6 are also poor communities and
7 communities with populations that
8 are nonwhite.

9 Exporting garbage will only
10 delay this administration's dealing
11 with the environmental impacts of
12 an unsustainable economy based on
13 consumerism and throwing out waste.
14 However, this exporting waste model
15 makes a lot of sense for waste
16 companies.

17 This plan basically will
18 provide waste companies an area of
19 expansion for their business
20 activities. This will bring, and I
21 just want to state parenthetically
22 here that although you said that
23 there's going to be no permit
24 expansion in your presentation, in
25 fact there was a just a permit

1
2 expansion, you know, within the
3 last year and a very substantial
4 permit expansion. So it's a little
5 disingenuous to say that this is not going
6 to require a permit expansion when
7 in fact you just expanded the
8 permit to sort of make room for all
9 of this.

10 This will be bring
11 environmental consequences for the
12 communities targeted to host the
13 waste transfer stations for the
14 next 20 years. Instead of
15 envisioning a program that will use
16 as a guiding principal zero
17 generation of waste, this
18 administration in collusion with
19 the waste industry, has put forward
20 a plan that is more of the same,
21 securing garbage for
22 Waste Management and other
23 incinerator companies.

24 One of the easy ways to make
25 business, no risk involved, profits

1
2 guaranteed for the next 20 years.
3 If it is hard today to get the City
4 to implement modest waste, modest
5 zero waste and re-use and recycling
6 programs, can you imagine how hard
7 it will be to do this when the plan
8 is approved. No way the waste
9 industrial will allow the supply of
10 waste to be lowered, because that
11 will mean less profits.

12 What we do not understand in
13 the South Bronx is this idea of not
14 dealing with the root of the
15 problem of garbage in New York
16 City.

17 First is the excessive
18 production of waste, the real lack
19 of institutional support for a zero
20 waste program and reuse and
21 recycling program in New York City.

22 Prominent lip service is
23 given to these buzz words.
24 However, after reading this
25 proposed plan, it's the same old

1
2 story, let's rely on exporting our
3 waste to other places paid with
4 money and make Waste Management and
5 other private haulers of waste
6 companies rich. Then they have the
7 nerve to call it sustainable.

8 Not only is exporting
9 garbage the wrong principle for
10 designing a waste management plan,
11 but this plan that claims to
12 achieve equality is flawed.

13 And I want to sort of
14 interject here that in sort of the
15 last minute looking at this plan,
16 although the idea of this plan is
17 that quote, each borough will
18 handle its own waste and supposedly
19 that promotes equality, in fact,
20 the plan then talks about a second
21 step which is sort like a staging
22 area, this stuff can actually go on
23 to rail and the South Bronx
24 transfer stations are mentioned as
25 a likely possibility for that to

1
2 pollution."
3 Incineration has been proved
4 to be an unwise and very
5 unhealthily environmental strategy
6 to dispose of waste. Incineration
7 produces some of the most dangerous
8 chemicals on earth, chemicals that
9 can cause cancer, birth defects,
10 learning problems and asthma.

11 Some of us in this room
12 spent eight years to stop the medical
13 waste incinerator in this
14 community. How could we in good
15 conscience live with our garbage
16 going to another poor, polluted
17 community to be burned there, we
18 can't.

19 Following the strategy that
20 began in the Guliani
21 Administration, the Department of
22 Sanitation and the Bloomberg
23 Administration are basically
24 extending their privatization
25 mantra to one of the most lucrative

1
2 happen. So that whereas, garbage
3 may be collected, may be barged out
4 of the MTS in Queens, it's then
5 going end up barged by our marine
6 plant, it's going to end up barged
7 to someplace like the Harlem Rail
8 Yard to be put on rail and then
9 sent out.

10 So in fact we are going to
11 be receiving quote, more than our
12 fair share, unquote.

13 The plan also proposes to
14 send New York City garbage to an
15 incinerator in Newark, one of the
16 most poor communities in New
17 Jersey.

18 Additionally, as a community
19 activist in Newark told me at a
20 meeting where we discussed a
21 proposal of sending garbage to that
22 incinerator, she stated, "We are
23 going to receive the pollution in
24 solid form and you in New York will
25 receive it back in the form the air

1
2 sectors, the waste industry.
3 The DOS and this
4 administration seek to protect the
5 goose that lays the golden egg by
6 proposing a 20-year plan that will
7 guarantee a lot of money to private
8 corporations for disposing of the
9 waste generated by the City, not to
10 mention lobbied money to the
11 politicians they support.

12 The point here of For A
13 Better Bronx, is that this plan
14 basically gives control of the
15 garbage industry to Waste
16 Management, Inc.

17 Although many community
18 groups have labeled this plan a
19 victory and a step forward, we
20 respectfully disagree with our
21 friends and collaborators that have
22 this opinion. For a Better Bronx
23 cannot support a waste management
24 plan that does not attack the root
25 of the problem of waste in New York

1
2 city.
3 For a Better Bronx cannot
4 claim this plan is a victory,
5 because clearly other poor and
6 nonwhite depressed communities are
7 going to bear the environmental
8 impacts of the garbage export of
9 New York.
10 For a Better Bronx cannot
11 support a plan that is proposing to
12 increase the burden of three and
13 four transfer stations in
14 communities that already suffer a
15 lot of pollution and are poor
16 communities and communities of
17 nonwhite human beings.
18 For a Better Bronx cannot
19 support a plan that does not
20 mention a cohesive plan for zero
21 waste reduction like New York
22 City -- like New York City did in
23 its bid proposal for the Olympic
24 Games.
25 For a Better Bronx cannot

1
2 support plans that offer a book of
3 proposals to open a waste transfer
4 station in the very community where
5 the Mayor and the President of the
6 City Council live.
7 For a Better Bronx cannot
8 support a plan that
9 legitimizes the privatization of
10 waste in New York City.
11 Waste Management which will
12 begin the control of the waste
13 business in the City is a company
14 that has had a history of abuse and
15 discrimination within our community
16 in Mott Haven and abuse and
17 discrimination against its workers,
18 exposing them to dangerous working
19 conditions and paying lower
20 salaries in our communities when
21 compared with workers in
22 communities that are white.
23 I also just want to add in a
24 comment on what Mr. Torres said
25 before, that the reason why there's

1
2 no direct rail access right now at
3 Allied is because Waste Management
4 cut a piece of track so that Allied
5 couldn't -- couldn't access the
6 rail. That piece of track is very
7 easily relaid, you know, if there
8 was the political will to do so.
9 We affirm our commitment to
10 defend our overburdened community
11 against the waste facility that
12 operates in the South Bronx and our
13 commitment to take Waste Management
14 out of our neighborhood.
15 We reaffirm our right to use
16 whatever means necessary to fight
17 against this ill-conceived waste
18 management plan.
19 We reaffirm that this plan
20 that claims justice because each
21 borough will handle its own garbage
22 is not in fact just, because of the
23 locations of the waste transfer
24 stations are almost all in
25 low-income communities of color.

1
2 This is not environmental justice.
3 We reaffirm that the plan is
4 based on bogus propositions like
5 the one that locates the only
6 transfer station located in a rich
7 white neighborhood right next to
8 where Mayor Bloomberg and the City
9 Council Speaker Gifford Miller
10 lives which is across the street
11 from the new fancy high-income
12 housing project that's just being
13 developed. Do you really think
14 this waste transfer station will
15 ever really open and where will
16 that garbage end up?
17 We reaffirm that this plan
18 is ill-conceived because there is
19 no plan here to start reducing the
20 garbage as many other cities have
21 done. Equal distribution of
22 garbage is not environmental
23 justice, zero waste is
24 environmental justice.
25 We reaffirm our support for

1
 2 this plan is a legitimization of a
 3 political strategy that undermines
 4 the struggle to end environmental
 5 justice because our garbage will be
 6 leaving New York City, going to
 7 poor communities to be landfilled
 8 at our cities and to Newark to be
 9 burned in a very poor polluted
 10 neighborhood right across the
 11 River, it's like 12 miles away from
 12 New York City, ten miles away as
 13 the pollution flies.

14 Is our garbage is being
 15 dumped in incinerators in other
 16 communities environmental justice?

17 We reaffirm that this plan
 18 is unacceptable because the garbage
 19 in the Waste Management transfer
 20 station stinks. Many of us in this
 21 community have to close our windows
 22 in the summer when it got really
 23 bad. Like, we can't emphasize this
 24 enough and to support what Paula
 25 Caplan said on behalf of the

1
 2 Privatization of New York
 3 City garbage with the worse waste
 4 company in the New York and the
 5 number one worst waste company in
 6 the world, is not environmental
 7 justice.

8 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
 9 for comments.

10 Our next speaker is Harry
 11 Bubbins.

12 MR. HARRY BUBBINS: Thanks a
 13 lot for having this again.

14 So I wanted to say it's
 15 true, it's kind of -- we're
 16 skeptical of the commitment DSNY
 17 has given the facts that were
 18 mentioned earlier that there was a
 19 significant increase in permit
 20 expansion allowed. And we've
 21 recently, regardless of the company
 22 involved, you could of at least
 23 mandated a full environmental
 24 impact statement and that was not
 25 done. So I meet this with

1
 2 Borough President, there's clearly
 3 a problem shipping waste out of
 4 that yard. The stuff here had been
 5 mishandled and not properly
 6 protected there or there's
 7 insufficient rail as we all know,
 8 we have insufficient freight rail out
 9 of the City and out of that yard.
 10 And stuff backs up there. And this
 11 plan will only add to that problem.
 12 And we do not see this DEIS
 13 addressing the problem of actually
 14 getting the stuff moved out in a
 15 timely fashion.

16 Now the Department of
 17 Sanitation has given Waste
 18 Management the largest waste
 19 corporation in the world, a present
 20 for its bad behavior. A long term
 21 contract for the garbage facility
 22 here in the South Bronx and an
 23 increase in its monopoly on the
 24 garbage business in New York for
 25 the next 20 years.

1
 2 skepticism, it's that this is a
 3 certain process and maybe then
 4 there would have been studies done
 5 about those effects with a full
 6 study, but that didn't occur
 7 unfortunately.

8 I want to zero in as well, I
 9 think one of the principles of
 10 borough self-sufficiency in
 11 Community Board 1 is getting all
 12 the garbage in the Bronx and that's
 13 rather unfair and there should be a
 14 program of mitigating factors and
 15 benefits for the community.

16 It's mentioned on page 13 of
 17 your executive summary in fact that
 18 one of the goals is to create new
 19 jobs on the Brooklyn economic
 20 development of the waterfront,
 21 Brooklyn waterfront. So it's
 22 within your task to do that kind of
 23 development throughout the City.
 24 Now, I'm sure that's the case with
 25 the recycling plant that there's

1
2 going to be a number of satellite
3 and peripheral benefits coming from
4 that so that should be similarly
5 included in the Bronx, especially
6 Community Board 1 given the fact
7 that we're handling all of the
8 borough's waste.

9 The mention of the Green
10 Berger Advisory Council, that
11 should be implemented immediately
12 even as this whole plan is being
13 fully considered so that there's a
14 local neighborhood advisory council
15 that is probably be good in
16 monitoring the Government as well
17 as the private companies'
18 fulfillment of this plan and in
19 general their operations in
20 general. And then it will move on
21 to develop trucks and mobile
22 distribution and these important
23 issues.

24 Also a
25 bridge and rail dialogue should be

1
2 resources to have recreational
3 opportunities.
4 Parallel to that, the City
5 Department of Planning has
6 mentioned by the Borough
7 President's Office, has identified
8 two locations, one of them adjacent
9 to the Waste Management property
10 that are priority concerns for the
11 rezoning of Port Morris. So again
12 the Bloomberg Administration can be
13 having more cooperation through the
14 city agencies to bring that to
15 fruition and allow Community Board
16 1 to get waterfront parks.

17 And as I said, the zoning
18 plan I think there's two of
19 numerous sites as a priority.

20 It's great tonight, the
21 first three transfer stations need
22 to be open on the Upper East Side
23 so hopefully that will really
24 happen. As was mentioned, some
25 people are skeptical that that's

1
2 included as the Borough President
3 mentioned, it's a very important
4 facility and you
5 can't get to it pretty much because
6 of the garbage and the rail. So
7 the Mayor should work to make that
8 part of this comprehensive plan.
9 And that would do well and much to
10 expand the South Bronx marine way
11 which the city DEC is already
12 working on with local community
13 leaders.

14 It's great that the
15 composting program be enhanced and
16 hopefully that will continue.

17 Also regarding waterfront
18 development, the two companies, Allied Waste
19 and Waste Management presently
20 occupy pretty much the entire
21 waterfront. There's also open
22 space that's not used by the new
23 facility, and hopefully DSNY can
24 help pressure those companies to
25 provide community access and

1
2 even going to happen.

3 Regarding waste reduction,
4 there should be, as I mentioned
5 earlier, as in other countries,
6 there's a law mandating that waste
7 be left at the source. For
8 example, department stores and
9 handling packaging, and therefore
10 they handle the cost of removing
11 that, therefore they pressure
12 companies to make less packaging.
13 So that's something that the City
14 Council can do or agencies or the
15 Mayor could bring forward to the
16 City Council and ask for a local
17 leader to take up that.

18 The waste-free tax revenues
19 to reduce waste, the City pretty
20 much subsidizes a lot of businesses
21 especially these free papers that
22 are given out nowadays, they're
23 pretty much thrown immediately into
24 the garbage and that's millions and
25 millions of paper every year and

1
 2 it's a lot of extra work that the
 3 Sanitation Department is doing at
 4 no cost for these businesses that
 5 provide metal and plastic and the
 6 newspapers are just one example.
 7 McDonald's, all these
 8 restaurants and everything, people
 9 go and buy food, they get a hundred
 10 napkins with their bags and those
 11 are all thrown immediately to be
 12 picked up by your personnel. So
 13 that should be addressed somehow.
 14 And finally you mentioned
 15 that biofuel study, I wonder how
 16 well a study because other cities
 17 are converting their entire garbage
 18 fleets to biodiesel. For example,
 19 Tacoma and Olympia, Washington have
 20 their entire garbage fleets run on
 21 biodiesel so hopefully that will
 22 become more of a strategy to reduce
 23 pollution as people's main concern
 24 today, the emissions from idling
 25 trucks that line up and that would

1
 2 today. But unfortunately the
 3 community you are putting this
 4 garbage in are communities of
 5 color.
 6 I have not seen any other
 7 person come and testify in this
 8 hearings and say they are in
 9 communities who are not of low
 10 income.
 11 I've seen it, I've lived it
 12 everyday and it's unfair to our
 13 community, our children and our
 14 senior citizens and everything else
 15 that we have in addition.
 16 We have listened to this
 17 everyday. Do we know we are going
 18 to get it, no, because many of
 19 these politicians and other people
 20 who serve our community, don't
 21 really care. And it's unfair to
 22 stand here and seeing a lot of
 23 people say, yeah, we're going to do
 24 this, we're going to do that, we're
 25 going to try to eliminate the waste

1
 2 reduce the emissions, and probably
 3 with the purchasing power of New
 4 York City would reduce cost as
 5 well.
 6 So thank you very much for
 7 the opportunity today.
 8 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
 9 for your comments.
 10 Our next speaker is Silkia
 11 Martinez.
 12 MS. SILKIA MARTINEZ: I'm
 13 here on behalf of the many
 14 asthmatics and asthmatic children,
 15 my daughter fortunately is not
 16 asthmatic.
 17 Asthma plays an impact. Did
 18 you realize how many children in
 19 the South Bronx have asthma? And
 20 how many others you are going to be
 21 effecting trying to so called under
 22 quotations, solve the waste issue?
 23 I'm an asthmatic but thank God not
 24 I'm not a chronic asthmatic because
 25 I wouldn't been here speaking

1
 2 but what about these trucks? The
 3 emissions of these trucks only
 4 weigh down on people mother's, our
 5 children lung's, they kill people
 6 with asthma every year.
 7 People don't realize that
 8 this is not only a garbage issue,
 9 it's a health issue, it's a smell
 10 issue, it's a borough issue.
 11 People say that the Hunts
 12 Point shouldn't be opened, but
 13 unfortunately I live in Hunt's
 14 Point and if I couldn't care less
 15 about what was going in there
 16 before. So I don't know what's the
 17 whole issue we're saying that they
 18 shouldn't open it because there's a
 19 market there and there's three
 20 transfer stations directly in that
 21 same neighborhood where the market
 22 is at.
 23 So how am I going to be so
 24 little for when I see myself or
 25 what my neighborhood looks like.

1
 2 That's what I want to know, why
 3 people try to tell people in other
 4 communities, no mentality. We're
 5 not people because we don't have
 6 the greedy amount of people Uptown
 7 for low income who might not have
 8 high working rate, but we're people
 9 who actually know what it is and to
 10 say it stinks in Hunts Point and
 11 it's not fair. It's not fair to
 12 me, it's not fair to them, it's not
 13 fair to anyone who knows me in this
 14 room to say I live in Hunts Point
 15 and there's so many, 15 different
 16 stations.

17 None of you have bothered to
 18 get up on your two feet, get on
 19 that six bus and look at the whole
 20 perimeter of that neighborhood.

21 That's my upsetness and my
 22 and my anger because I have to
 23 stand every time when these
 24 meetings come along to say that I'm
 25 an asthmatic and I'm fortunate to

1
 2 strategies. The SWMP must make any
 3 new system, including the converted
 4 marine transfer station and the
 5 private marine or rail-based
 6 alternative, conditional on the closure of
 7 significant number of the private
 8 land-based transfer stations
 9 currently in operation in our
 10 neighborhood. And I also believe
 11 that you have to look further into
 12 the environment, the fact -- the
 13 fact is that the harm that it does
 14 environmentally. Because it has to
 15 be absurd that they say that it has
 16 no type of harm.

17 I mean, we have one of the
 18 highest asthma rates in the South
 19 Bronx. We have trucks, we have the
 20 smell of garbage. I mean, it's
 21 unfair for someone to come -- that
 22 someone that doesn't live around
 23 here could come and say it's not
 24 harmful to us. But we live here,
 25 we breathe it and we suffer from it

1
 2 fight for what I want. And I don't
 3 want to see any more garbage pushed
 4 into my community.

5 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Marta
 7 Rodriguez.

8 MS. MARTA RODRIGUEZ: Good
 9 evening, I'm Marta Rodriguez and
 10 I'm representing Sustainable South
 11 Bronx, but I'm also a resident of
 12 Hunts Point.

13 We support the opening of
 14 the marine transfer station and
 15 private marine or rail-based
 16 alternatives because we need a fair
 17 alternative to the permit
 18 application system which
 19 overburdens our neighborhoods and
 20 other low-income neighborhoods of
 21 color.

22 Our support of the solid
 23 waste management plan is
 24 conditioned upon the fact that this
 25 SWMP will be of two or more

1
 2 so I think that it should be part
 3 of the plan.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Elena
 7 Conte.

8 MS. ELENA CONTE: Hi, good
 9 evening. My name is Elena Conte
 10 and I'll be giving comments on
 11 Sustainable South Bronx in addition
 12 to the comments that Marta already
 13 put forth.

14 Tonight's meeting especially
 15 we know is on the environmental
 16 impacts of the city solid waste
 17 management plan. And the bottom
 18 line is that a Sustainable South
 19 Bronx wants to emphasize is that
 20 the real way that the South Bronx
 21 will be protected and the people of
 22 New York served is through the
 23 aggressive pursuit of zero waste,
 24 an initiative that requires
 25 planning and economic support for

1
2 waste prevention, reuse and
3 sustainable economic development.

4 And while we believe that
5 great commitment to the goal of
6 zero waste and more planning can
7 help bring it to reality in 20
8 years. And the details that we
9 need to be filled in on that will
10 come out at the SWMP hearings.

11 We also want to speak about
12 the term reality. As you heard,
13 we support opening of the
14 marine transfer stations and
15 private marine and/or rail-based
16 alternatives, because we believe
17 that it can be an equitable
18 alternative to the current system
19 which overburdens our neighborhood
20 and other low-income communities of
21 color, but that doesn't mean that
22 it will be. And the way that
23 things are laid out in the current
24 plan, leaves a lot of questions in
25 our minds.

1
2 allows some components to be
3 implemented on a faster timetable
4 and avoid City investment in new
5 capital products, projects, excuse
6 me.

7 Of higher concern than
8 avoiding City investment and other
9 types of expediency, however, are
10 the reduction of excess capacity,
11 the closure the land-based
12 stations and the strict adherence to
13 the principal of borough
14 self-sufficiency and relying on
15 that existing capacity is not an
16 acceptable way to try to implement
17 the basic principles.

18 So in spite of the historic
19 and current burden that the South
20 Bronx has had to bear, it's willing
21 to accept the garbage that it
22 creates provided that the standards
23 of operation of the facilities
24 charged with handling this waste,
25 are dramatically improved to truly

1
2 The bottom lines which must
3 be adhered to despite any
4 circumstances are: Borough
5 self-sufficiency, the closure of
6 the land-based stations and the
7 reduction of excess permit
8 capacities in the Bronx.

9 Currently, the Bronx
10 generates an average of about 3600
11 tons per day of the residential and
12 commercial putrescible waste
13 combined. While the 3600 number
14 varies, the total Bronx putrescible
15 capacity needs to be reduced to a
16 maximum of 4,000 tons per day.

17 The current DEIS and SWMP,
18 while these principles don't do
19 enough to ensure that the necessary
20 changes will take place.

21 Page 11 of the draft SWMP
22 says that among the long term
23 export programs major advantage is,
24 is that the quote, use of existing
25 private transfer stations capacity

1
2 ensure the safety and well being of
3 the surrounding neighborhoods. The
4 safety and well being of the
5 neighborhoods includes that of the
6 workers at the facilities who
7 deserve being given prevailing
8 wages, uncompromised safety
9 protocols and other basic rights.

10 Furthermore, these
11 facilities should be required to
12 make significant contributions to
13 the neighborhoods to make sure they
14 receive meaningful benefits for
15 housing these facilities.

16 We expect that the City
17 should include this as a
18 requirement for all stations with
19 which it enters into any kind of a
20 contract.

21 Furthermore, notices should
22 not be made without the people of
23 the neighborhood. To ensure you
24 meet the bottom line, a plan for
25 closing the private land-based

1
2 transfer stations should be
3 considered at the same time as the
4 plan for opening the MTSS and the
5 alternatives in this SWMP DEIS.

6 The City should commit to a
7 plan that includes a community
8 advisory group and a timeline of
9 milestones to develop and implement
10 the redistribution of waste
11 capacity for communities with the
12 largest number of land-based
13 transfer stations as is proposed in
14 the draft SWMP.

15 It's only after the details
16 in that plan so this redistribution
17 plan has been worked out to the
18 satisfaction of that community
19 group, that the City should enter
20 into -- that's a really bad word --
21 should enter into a contract with
22 the private company for
23 DSNY-managed South Bronx waste.

24 To protect the neighborhood
25 for long term capacity, only one

1
2 facility in the Harlem River Yard,
3 okay.

4 Sustainable South Bronx is
5 opposed to the creation of a
6 facility that will allow the Bronx
7 to receive containerized garbage
8 from other boroughs to be railed
9 through their neighborhood. The
10 current documents would allow for
11 this facility to receive
12 containerized garbage from East
13 91st Street, the North Shore
14 converted MTS, and West 59th
15 Street.

16 Not only is this proposal a
17 transparent violation of borough
18 self-sufficiency, I mean, why
19 bother to keep this facility if
20 you're going to bring it right back
21 up here, that's not right anymore.

22 The DEIS's assertion for the
23 creation of such a facility is not
24 subject to any kind of additional
25 environmental review? That's

1
2 company should get that contract
3 for DSNY-collected waste. But
4 after that will be considered,
5 after we flush out the plan, the
6 community input on that group of
7 how we're going to redistribute all
8 that excess capacity.

9 So that gives you some of
10 the general principles. I really
11 want to highlight just a couple of
12 key points, although I'll get much
13 more into it in the written
14 comments.

15 But that the current
16 analysis represented by this DEIS
17 does not go nearly far enough to
18 address, it doesn't really do the
19 job that it even claims to let out.

20 So the first point that has
21 to be raised is it hasn't been
22 presented to us or discussed at any
23 public hearings thus far or any of
24 our other conversations with the
25 City, is this proposed intermodal

1
2 disastrous and it really
3 exemplifies the worst attempts to
4 sneak in other polluters and it's
5 overburdening without any community
6 input. I mean, that, you know,
7 I've been reading all this stuff
8 for months, I have to say I've been
9 following it with my entire group
10 from the point of the Sustainable
11 South Bronx and all the documents,
12 and I come upon the proposal to
13 open this facility and I'm
14 thinking, how is it possible that I
15 have never heard about this and
16 I've never heard anything of this
17 discussed anywhere, it's
18 unbelievable.

19 So the way that it currently
20 works is that the plan would allow
21 the responders to the City's
22 argument and the City to make this
23 decision in a back room. I want to
24 be very clear, an intermodal
25 facility in the Bronx getting

1
2 garbage from outside the borough is
3 completely unacceptable.

4 The second point related to
5 the DEIS refers to the insufficient
6 gathering of analysis that the
7 current DEIS offers and that's
8 really an understatement.

9 The DEIS makes references to
10 previous studies done in '94 and
11 done in '97, 2000 but it doesn't
12 provide an analysis of the impacts
13 that the existing system has on the
14 community. And a refusal to do
15 this slightly shows the willingness
16 to perpetuate the environmental
17 injustices by depending on the sort
18 of studies that we know has been
19 proven over and over again has
20 discriminated against the people of
21 the neighborhood.

22 In particular, none of these
23 historical studies have examined
24 off-site impacts. This omission is
25 what created the current situation

1
2 essentially trying to conclude that
3 air quality is only going to be
4 affected at one intersection at
5 East 138th Street and Bruckner and
6 that, you know, it's not going to
7 be of significance.

8 So essentially the DEIS
9 concludes that by changing the
10 traffic signals, this is its big
11 recommendation for the whole
12 impact, that if you change the
13 traffic signals at 138th and
14 Bruckner Boulevard, the
15 environmental impact of the waste
16 from the entire borough of the
17 Bronx is going to be mitigated. I
18 mean, that in and of itself is a
19 conclusion is unbelievable that
20 that's what you're putting out
21 there as what the impact is going
22 to be. It's really insulting to
23 the realities that people are
24 living with.

25 So clearly, we need more

1
2 and there is no analysis in this
3 DEIS of what the perpetuation of
4 the current situation will be.
5 You're calling it the future
6 no-build alternative, but you're
7 also calling it okay by refusing to
8 do a full analysis of what's really
9 going on here right now, that's a
10 major leap in logic, since we know
11 that Bronx's air quality is, you
12 know, has received a grade of F
13 from the American Lung Association,
14 and high asthma rates so on and so
15 forth.

16 So the DEIS doesn't provide
17 any new information with regard to
18 the waste management site. With
19 regard to the East 132nd Street
20 site, the operation that the
21 proposed Oak Point Intermodal site
22 are also being exempt from review.

23 The new truck traffic up the
24 Bruckner and all the way down Barry
25 Street are not analyzed. And it's

1
2 controls that need to be installed
3 in our existing facilities,
4 whatever facility get that
5 contract, I'm going to include
6 those in the written comments.

7 Just two more quick points.
8 Well, with one other point. Just
9 that the environmental impacts of
10 the transfer station siting
11 regulations and the transfer
12 station operational regulations,
13 should also be being assessed as
14 part of the environmental review of
15 the SWMP. It's absent from the
16 analysis that you provided and it
17 is inappropriate for DSNY to
18 separate a set number of
19 regulations governing a private
20 land-based state waste transfer
21 system from the delivery process of
22 the overall SWMP.

23 That's enough for now. See
24 the rest in writing, thank you.

25 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.

1
 2 Our next speaker is Sharon
 3 Joslyn.
 4 MS. SHARON JOSLYN: Good
 5 evening, my name is Sharon Joslyn,
 6 I've been a resident of the South
 7 Bronx since 1980 and I work at
 8 St. Luke's Church on 138th Street.
 9 We do a lot of work in the
 10 community, we're always active,
 11 trying to improve the quality of
 12 the life. We're very rarely
 13 approached or informed of anything
 14 that is happening in the community
 15 and we do resent that.
 16 The South Bronx is
 17 affectionately referred to
 18 sometimes as the Downtown Bronx,
 19 but some of us from the work that
 20 we've been doing, we're beginning
 21 to call it the Dumptown Bronx.
 22 Because every time a facility has
 23 to find a place for its location,
 24 it comes to the South Bronx.
 25 And I remember when DNY

1
 2 to see something done with that,
 3 make life better for people and not
 4 burden our people. Thank you.
 5 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.
 6 Our next speaker is Timothy
 7 Logan.
 8 MR. TIMOTHY LOGAN: Hi,
 9 Timothy Logan, on here speaking on
 10 behalf of the Consumer Policy
 11 Institute of Consumers Union
 12 (holding computer.)
 13 I think part of the problem
 14 is we look at what you've done for
 15 this DEIS, come to the fact that
 16 it's you, Mr. Szarpanski that's
 17 running it and you're Assistant
 18 Commissioner of Long Term Export.
 19 That means that the entire
 20 Department has failed in looking at
 21 what they were doing when they were
 22 doing their comprehensive solid
 23 waste management plan. Because if
 24 they were being comprehensive, as
 25 put out here in a letter by the

1
 2 auxiliary came and it was in the
 3 paper, it's there because nobody
 4 lives there. And you're saying
 5 there's no significant impacts on
 6 the environment. Well, our
 7 population is part of the
 8 environment and we're suffering
 9 with asthma, with health problems.
 10 We're trying to work, we're trying
 11 to get our kids to schools. And we
 12 think that means that we are
 13 insignificant.
 14 What we want is, in a
 15 capital city of the world, New York
 16 City, that there be more creative
 17 management of waste and we know
 18 that is possible. Whereas, other
 19 people have said that there be a
 20 just a way of dealing with waste
 21 and I know we can do it.
 22 We would like to see quality
 23 of life considered. Look at our
 24 beautiful waterfront here that we
 25 have no access to. We would like

1
 2 Commissioner, which I will read to
 3 you. This is an excerpt, "In
 4 addition to continuing programs
 5 designed to reduce, re-use, prevent
 6 and recycle and compost solid
 7 waste, a key component of the
 8 proposed new SWMP is the
 9 development of the state-of-the-art
 10 MTSS."
 11 That was a letter from
 12 Commissioner Doherty to elected
 13 officials of involved agencies and
 14 interested parties on the New York
 15 City new comprehensive SWMP CEQRA
 16 and CEQR notice of determination on
 17 May 3rd, 2004.
 18 You notice it says, a
 19 key component is the marine
 20 transfer station, not the whole
 21 damn thing. I think it's somewhat
 22 clear on that case.
 23 The idea here, the
 24 comprehensive solid management plan
 25 according state legislation

1
 2 requires it, is that we're
 3 implementing regulations for the
 4 City to produce a 20-year
 5 comprehensive plans which covers
 6 all aspects of the current and
 7 future solid waste management
 8 including alternatives to disposal,
 9 waste prevention, reuse, recycling
 10 and composting, while
 11 simultaneously evaluating the
 12 facilities needed for long term
 13 export.

14 A comprehensive solid waste
 15 management plan should contain many
 16 other sections that thoroughly
 17 cover at least diversion strategies
 18 as well as the detailed steps and
 19 necessary infrastructure to the
 20 City's proposals for the next 20
 21 years. Instead, this request of a
 22 plan for the next few years to
 23 reconstruct facilities that are
 24 needed only to enable long term
 25 export.

1
 2 The 20-year solid waste
 3 management plan can and should
 4 comprehensively deal with waste
 5 diversion options.

6 The notice of determination
 7 should not tell us one thing as
 8 quoted in the letter and then fail
 9 to have any chapters devoted to
 10 waste diversion strategies.

11 The DEIS almost entirely
 12 fails to deal with waste diversion
 13 strategies with certainly a noted
 14 exception of the Hugo Neu facility
 15 and a few minor other points.

16 I think it's been said by
 17 almost every person who came here
 18 tonight and it was mentioned in
 19 your SWMP, that this solid waste
 20 management plan considers zero
 21 waste but then you kind of
 22 dismissed it and I think that's a
 23 significant failure because, as you
 24 take a look at what was done, they
 25 haven't particularly come up with a

1
 2 plan, hundreds of ideas of how
 3 we're going to reach this 70
 4 percent diversion by 2015, which is
 5 laudable. Nor have they
 6 particularly looked at the commercial
 7 waste structure to designate how
 8 they're going to get to this 35
 9 percent diversion rate of DSNY and
 10 commercial waste by 2007.

11 Those figures are simply
 12 inexcusable. Thank you.

13 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker Yolanda
 15 Gonzalez.

16 MR. TIMOTHY LOGAN: She
 17 asked me to step up here and give
 18 her comments so I'll read them from
 19 my seat.

20 I was also asked by the
 21 President of the Bronx SWAB to
 22 deliver these comments. They will
 23 in fact be delivering written
 24 materials in time for your January
 25 24th deadline I believe it is.

1
 2 The Bronx SWAB supports, so
 3 this is on behalf of the Bronx
 4 SWAB.

5 The Bronx SWAB supports the
 6 closing of the South Bronx MTS and
 7 the move to export waste from the
 8 City by barge or rail as opposed to
 9 the trucks.

10 The SWAB would like to
 11 provide comments on whether the
 12 City should pursue one of two
 13 designated Bronx sites other than
 14 the Harlem River Yards and the
 15 Allied 132nd Street Facility.
 16 However, there is no information
 17 provided that would enable our
 18 analysis of the comparative
 19 environmental impacts of the sites.

20 The Bronx SWAB is concerned
 21 to see the mention of the Harlem
 22 River Yards as a potential barge-to
 23 rail-transfer station for other
 24 boroughs' waste. We oppose such a
 25 move because utilizing this

1
2 facility would increase the waste
3 disposal burden on the Bronx,
4 overburdening an already taxed rail
5 line.

6 The SWAB supports the export
7 a Manhattan's commercial waste to a
8 transfer station in that borough to
9 reduce the impact of commercial
10 waste transfer on our neighborhoods
11 in the Bronx.

12 The SWAB supports the Hunts
13 Point Market Composting Project and
14 urges the City to move more
15 expeditiously than the timeframe
16 laid out in the plan.

17 The SWAB strongly supports
18 the goal of 70 percent diversion by
19 2015 which is consistent with the
20 SWAB goal of zero waste by 2024;
21 however, the plan provides no
22 detail on how that goal will be
23 achieved.

24 It is necessary to build
25 more recycling infrastructure to

1
2 dedicated to commercial waste
3 prevention and recycling programs.

4 The plan should include an
5 investigation of commercial waste
6 franchising. However, any
7 franchising scheme must exempt
8 recyclables to provide maximum
9 competition in recycling markets.

10 The plans states that the
11 City supports Federal legislation
12 to establish extended producer
13 responsibility for electronic
14 waste. While this a positive
15 statement, the City should be
16 pursuing local EPR legislation.

17 And if you care to find us
18 on the Net at production.org and
19 www.cleanfreshnetwork.

20 The plan should include the
21 City support for expanding the
22 State's Bottle Bill as a means for
23 increasing the recycling beverage
24 containers. Plastic packaging is
25 clearly a problem that must be

1
2 achieve the 70 percent recovery
3 goal. The Bronx SWAB strongly
4 suggests that the City develop
5 capacity in each borough through
6 borough-based recycling industrial
7 parks.

8 The SWAB supports the
9 reinstatement of the Botanical
10 Gardens Composting Program.
11 However, greater attention to
12 composting food waste is critical
13 to achieving aggressive diversion
14 goals.

15 The commercial waste section
16 of the plan does not pay any
17 attention to waste prevention or
18 recycling. The City will not be
19 able to meet a goal of 70 percent
20 reduction without addressing the
21 commercial and construction and
22 demolition and debris streams.

23 The plan states an intention
24 to increase transfer station fees;
25 those increased revenues should be

1
2 addressed through policy means.

3 The Bronx SWAB encourages
4 the City to implement programs and
5 policies to control plastic waste
6 and eventually prohibit the use of
7 plastics that are not recyclable in
8 the City's program.

9 While it is wise for the
10 City to seek alternative
11 technologies to manage its waste,
12 many of the technologies proposed
13 for study are black box approaches
14 or new versions of incineration.

15 Anaerobic digestion should
16 be pursued immediately and
17 aggressively because it would
18 enable the organic food waste
19 stream to be recovered as a
20 valuable compost and could generate
21 energy as well.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
24 for your comments.

25 Is there anybody else who

1
2 signed up to speak and wasn't
3 called? Any other speakers?
4 If not, I thank you for
5 coming and I urge you to get any
6 comments you have in writing to us
7 by January 24th. Thank you.
8 Copies of my presentation
9 will be available at the end of the
10 discussion.
11 (Time noted 7:33 p.m.)
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1
2 C E R T I F I C A T E
3 STATE OF NEW YORK)
4 : ss.
5 COUNTY OF NEW YORK)
6
7 I, Marc Russo, a Notary Public
8 within and for the State of New York,
9 do hereby certify that the within is a
10 true and accurate transcript of the
11 proceedings taken on December 6, 2004.
12 I further certify that I am not related
13 to any of the parties to this action by
14 blood or marriage and that I am in no
15 way interested in the outcome of this
16 matter.
17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
18 hand this 10th day of January, 2005.
19
20
21 _____
22 MARC RUSSO
23
24
25