

WARREN HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Earl C. Clymer, III Superintendent Donnamarie Palmiere Business Administrator Dennis Mack Director of Human Resources

September 23, 2022

Jason J. Sarnoski, Commissioner Director
Board of County Commissioners of the County of Warren
Wayne Dumont, Jr. Administration Building
165 County Route 519 South
Belvidere, NJ 07823-1949

Re: Resolution Opposing Proposed Food Composting Facility in Mansfield

Dear Mr. Sarnoski,

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education passed the attached resolution at their September 13th board meeting. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Donnamarie Palmiere

Business Administrator

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WARREN HILLS REGIONAL, WARREN COUNTY, N.J. AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICIAL MINUTE BOOK

The Board of Education of Warren Hills Regional in the County of Warren, N.J. convened in a Regular Meeting on September 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call was taken by Mrs. Donnamarie Palmiere. Members present were Joseph Bodenschatz, Christopher Cannavo, Molly Fraumeni, Jean Hansen, Eric Horton, Lisa Marshall and Corey Piasecki. Also present were Earl Clymer, Dennis Mack, and Donnamarie Palmiere. Sam Knutson and Eric Walls were absent.

The following Resolution was offered by Mr. Bodenschatz and seconded by Mr. Cannavo:

RESOLVED:

Motion by Mr. Bodenschatz and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions II.1 through II.7, as amended and described below:

*7. WHEREAS, the Warren Hills Regional School District ("District") is a grade 7-12 school district located in Warren County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the District services seventh through twelfth grade public school students from the Township of Mansfield, among other municipalities; and

WHEREAS, there are two schools in the District, Warren Hills Regional Middle School and Warren Hills Regional High School, located in Washington Township, both of which are in close geographic proximity to the Township of Mansfield;

WHEREAS, it has recently come to the Board's attention that there is proposed development at 350 Blau Road in the Township of Mansfield ("Property") to be developed as a food composting facility ("Facility"); and

WHEREAS, it is the Board's understanding that the Facility will accept food scraps and similar organic materials, and employ a decomposition process which will return fertilizer and top soil for farming and related purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Board has significant concerns regarding the location, size, and scope of the Facility, and its impacts to the Property, the District and surrounding area, and the District's students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board has great concern that should the Facility be approved at the Property, this could result in a near round-the-clock operation of heavy trucks to and from the Property, thereby causing constant heavy truck noise and exhaust; and

WHEREAS, due to heavily regulated truck routes in the area of the Property, truck traffic will likely be directed through winding and often treacherous stretches of roadways for the size and weight of trucks expected to traverse to and from the Property, which will cause a high likelihood of increasing the number of traffic incidents in the vicinity of the Property, including the jack-knifing of heavy trucks, which already occur with great regularity; and WHEREAS, the noxious fumes caused by the newly-decomposing organic materials shipped by

WHEREAS, the noxious fumes caused by the newly-decomposing organic materials shipped by the heavy trucks will likely cast a lingering odor, emanating from the Property and throughout

the truck traffic route, which will negatively impact the well-being of the residents of the immediate and surrounding area, including the District's Mansfield Township students; and WHEREAS, the Board has serious concerns pertaining to the physical safety of students, staff, and parents who travel through Mansfield Township to and from school, due to the anticipated high increase in traffic accidents that will be caused by the numerous heavy trucks that will be traveling to and from the Facility through winding and often treacherous stretches of roadways on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, the Board has serious concerns pertaining to Mansfield Township students' abilities to travel to and from school via school-provided transportation, and the correlated effect on student attendance, due to the numerous traffic issues that will be caused by the creation of the Facility, as well as the likely road damage that will be caused by the daily heavy trucks, which the Board foresees will interfere with the location of the Board's bus stops and bus transportation routes; and

WHEREAS, the Board has serious concerns, both short-term and long-term, pertaining to the health and safety of students and staff caused by the myriad of environmental and air pollution issues that would result due to the creation of the Facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education formally expresses its opposition to the proposed development of the Facility at the Property for the reasons contained herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent by the Board Secretary to Governor Murphy, our local Legislators, the Commissioner of Education, County Commissioners, District Officials and the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

Approval of Education & Policy Motions

MOTION: Scott Bodenschatz		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Molly Fraumeni	X			
Jean Hansen	X			
Eric Horton				X
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	X			
Eric Walls				X
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			

ROLL CALL: AYES: 7

NAYES: 0

STATE OF NEW JERSEY: COUNTY OF WARREN:

I, Donnamarie Palmiere, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, of the Board of Education of Warren Hills Regional, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the following extract from the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education of said district duly called and held on September 13, 2022 has been compared by me with the original Minutes as officially recorded in the Minute book of said Warren Hills Regional, Board of Education and is a true, complete copy thereof and of the whole of said original Minutes so far as the same relate to the subject matter referred to in said extract in witness I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Board of Education this 23rd day of September, 2022.

AFFIX SEAL:

Donnamarie Palmiere

Business Admin./Board Secretary