



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CAMILLE "BUD" GEORGE
74TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
Clearfield County

Democratic Chairman,
House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

E-mail: cgeorge@pahouse.net

CONTACT: Matthew Maciorkoski, 717-787-7082

Rep. George fights \$8.5 million state subsidy for waste industry

HARRISBURG, July 1, 2004 – State Rep. Camille “Bud” George, D-74 of Clearfield County, is fighting efforts to have state taxpayers subsidize efforts to build a landfill and incinerator near the border between Clearfield and Centre counties.

“Pennsylvania is the nation’s dumping ground, and asking state taxpayers to pony up \$8.5 million so the Commonwealth can accept even more out-of-state trash is obscene,” said Rep. George, Democratic chairman of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. “This ‘your-cash-for-their-trash’ gambit must be stopped.”

Last month, a Capital Budget item was submitted in the state Senate that requests \$8.5 million to rehabilitate 17 miles of rail in Clearfield and Centre counties to transport trash to a landfill and incinerator project proposed for Rush Township, Centre County, by Resource Recovery LLC of Lancaster County.

On Wednesday, Rep. George unveiled an amendment that would prohibit funds from a proposed State Railroad Infrastructure Bank from being used to bolster landfill/incinerator projects. While the amendment was withdrawn, Rep. George said it will be re-introduced.

“I support improving rail infrastructure for worthwhile, job-creating projects, especially those that would produce electricity while removing millions of tons of waste coal that are destroying our water supplies,” Rep. George said. “However, wasting taxpayers’ money to subsidize unneeded and unwanted waste facilities while producing precious few jobs is neither wise nor warranted.”

Rep. George said he would urge Gov. Edward G. Rendell not to release Capital Budget money for landfill/incinerator projects.

“I will tell the governor that encouraging more waste-disposal capacity is not part of the ‘New Pennsylvania’ he is working so strenuously to create through Growing Greener II and responsible economic-investment efforts,” Rep. George said. “Our cash deserves better than trash.”

