

Re: Proposed Eklutna, Inc. Monofill Dump / Rezone

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing this letter on behalf of 'Stop The Dump', a loosely formed grassroots organization of local individuals and business owners dedicated to preventing the rezone of a 68-acre parcel that would allow heavy industrial uses in the historic district and heart of our Chugiak community. Bottom line is: we believe heavy industrial uses like dumps DO NOT belong next to established family neighborhoods, parks, and small businesses.

**Background:**

Eklutna, Inc. is proposing to rezone a 68-acre parcel to allow heavy industrial uses, including the immediate operation of a private, unlined construction and demolition debris dump (a 'monofill'). Central Recycling Inc. would create and operate the dump for the exclusive disposal of their refuse obtained primarily from demolition projects on JBER. The 68-acre parcel is proposed directly south of Loretta French Park, southeast of the Glenn Highway, and northwest of the Old Glenn Highway. Access into the dump will be via Kerbow Lane, the same park driveway used to access your archery range. Naturally, the surrounding neighbors, including the community councils, oppose this rezone for many reasons, a few of which are listed below. After months of public testimony and discussion, in December 2013 the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended denial to the Anchorage Assembly of Eklutna, Inc.'s rezone application. Even after all the negative public testimony at the Planning and Zoning Public hearings; presentation of nearly 1,000 petition signatures in opposition to the dump; as well as the recommendation of denial from the Commission, Eklutna, Inc. has chosen to ignore the voices of its neighbors and go forward with the rezone application to the Anchorage Assembly in hope of their approval.

**How to help:**

The rezone is currently scheduled for a public hearing at the Anchorage Assembly on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (5:00 PM) in the Assembly Chambers at the Loussac Library in Anchorage. We want to fill the Assembly Chambers that evening with as many concerned citizens as possible to oppose this ill-conceived proposal. In the meantime, it is imperative we all contact each Assembly member by letter/email and/or phone call and tell them why a rezone to allow a dump adjacent to Loretta French Park is a bad idea. In your correspondence, please stress that the proposed dump will:

- ALLOW CENTRAL RECYCLING, INC. AND EKLUTNA, INC. TO PROFIT AT THE MUNICIPAL TAX PAYER'S EXPENSE by forfeiting dump fees at the Anchorage Regional Landfill which already operates an award-winning facility (with lined and monitored cells) constructed specifically for this kind of waste;
- HEAVILY INCREASE TRUCK TRAFFIC and result in potential conflicts along a major recreational corridor including the recently completed Loretta French Park, the Old Glenn Highway multi-use trail, and the Ptarmigan Trailhead;
- POTENTIALLY CAUSE MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CATASTROPHES, including surface and subsurface water contamination from an unlined landfill into thousands of adjacent wells, the headwaters of Mink Creek, and Type A wetlands;
- SPEW HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF HYDROGEN SULFIDE GAS INTO THE SURROUNDING AIR; hydrogen sulfide is a poisonous, flammable, and colorless gas with a characteristic odor of rotten eggs, produced when gypsum board (Sheetrock, Drywall) becomes wet – common complaints from these types of monofills across the country, including the existing monofill adjacent to the Birchwood Airport, include permanent or long-term effects such as nausea, headache, eye irritation, difficulty in breathing, poor motor function, and loss of attention and memory; and
- THREATEN THE HEALTH OF ESTABLISHED ADJACENT NEIGHBORHOODS, PARK USERS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES as well as bring about the DECREASE OF SURROUNDING PROPERTY VALUES by rezoning this area to heavy industrial use and allowing a dump.

We urge you to oppose this rezone. We do not wish our community to become the dumping ground for corporate byproduct waste. For more information and links to the Anchorage Assembly, please feel free to visit our website at [www.stopthedumpchugiakalaska.com](http://www.stopthedumpchugiakalaska.com); email us at [stopthedumpchugiak@gmail.com](mailto:stopthedumpchugiak@gmail.com); and follow us on Facebook at "Stop The Dump Chugiak".

Sincerely,