

## **Stop PFAS Pollution! No Waste to Energy Incinerator! 9/11/25**

On this solemn day in history, it is altogether fitting that we honor the memory of fallen heroes, both those who died in the Twin Towers, and those who died later from exposure to pollutants after the buildings fell. Pollution is everywhere and growing by leaps and bounds. With all the information out there on the extreme dangers of PFAS and other 'forever' chemicals, it is hard to fathom why some County officials seem hell bent on saddling Sullivan County with a 'Waste to Energy' super polluting incinerator to handle the County's tsunami of garbage, as noted in their proposed solid waste management plan.

Forget the fact that garbage incinerators are among the worst producers of forever chemicals. Forget that incinerators are prohibitively expensive (\$40,000,000 plus) to build, and often leave the communities who invest in them bankrupt. And forget that the pollution incinerators create, frequently leads to economic and ecological disasters for people and communities located miles away from incinerator sites. The truth is that garbage incinerators rarely if ever produce enough energy to even run the facility, let alone make a marketable commodity to sell. And after all that, all you have left is a totally befouled ecosystem that kills or badly injures all forms of life that it touches.

Reams of existing evidence proves that massive chemical pollution is already with us. The DVD docudrama, Black Waters shows the systematic poisoning of a West Virginia community, and subsequent decades long coverup of that crime by the giant chemical company, Du Pont. The newest evidence documenting the deadly and devastating effects of PFAS and other forever chemicals is found in a book authored by investigative journalist, Mariah Blake titled 'They Poisoned The World, Life and Death in the Age of Forever Chemicals'. The title says it all. This impeccably researched and documented account of how big chemical companies knowingly exposed millions of people to deadly chemicals and conspired to cover it up, will shock you into joining the fight to stop the pollution. (See attached link: [THEY POISONED THE WORLD.](#))

In a related matter, on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> Legislators authorized a hearing for comments on the plan to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a countywide groundwater study. If this study is to learn about the quantity and quality of potable water in the County, and given the pervasive level of PFAS pollutants already here, it would be reckless and negligent not to test for PFAS levels in the water as well.

Polluted water is not an asset. Knowingly concealing its presence could be found to be criminally negligent and lead to serious legal liability. Don't let expediency turn a blind eye to pollution and the responsibility to protect people from it.

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