



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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Letters to the Editor
The Repository
500 Market Street South
Canton, Ohio 44702-2193

Dear Editor:

I am disappointed to again read misinformation about Ohio EPA in the Repository. Twice in the last few days, your paper has written about Ohio EPA's alleged opposition to a proposed U.S. Geological Survey ground water study under consideration by the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne solid waste management district.

Ohio EPA has not told anyone that we oppose the ground water study. To the contrary, we have acknowledged the value of such a study. Ohio EPA has the highest regard for the U.S. Geological Survey and would welcome any scientific effort to collect good, hydrogeologic information for use in water resources planning and management.

What we have told people – including your Columbus bureau chief – is that there may be issues as to whether Ohio law allows district fees to pay for the study. A 17-year-old state law, not Ohio EPA, determines what those funds can be used for. Those facts were inaccurately reported on September 30 and were then repeated in a column by your special projects editor.

Ohio EPA and the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne solid waste management district have made significant progress in the last few months regarding the district's long-term solid waste management needs and plans. That progress is threatened when the media create a conflict when there simply isn't one.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. Koncelik
Director

Bob Taft, Governor
Bruce Johnson, Lieutenant Governor
Joseph P. Koncelik, Director