

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



CERTIFIED MAIL #7003-3110-0004-3149-4907

May 14, 2019

Worthing F. Jackman, President
Waste Connections of Osceola County, LLC.
3 Waterway Square Place Suite 110
The Woodlands, Texas 77380

RE: Cease Receiving Coal Ash - JED Landfill in Osceola County

Dear Mr. Jackman;

Please be advised that, at the meeting of May 13, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners voted to request that Waste Connections of Osceola County, LLC cease receiving coal ash from Puerto Rico at the JED Landfill in Osceola County.

During the meeting, significant public testimony was presented expressing concerns with the presence of toxins in the ash and the potential of both environmental damage and human illness. Due to these concerns, the Commission believes it is in the best interest of the public that the waste not be brought to the County. The Commission respectfully requests that Waste Connections cease accepting this material from Puerto Rico immediately.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 407-742-2006.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Grieb, Chairwoman
Osceola County

DF/is

- C: Board of County Commissioners
Don S. Fisher, County Manager .
Beth A. Knight, Deputy County Manager
Andrew Mai, County Attorney
Danielle Slaterpryce, Public Works Director
Delores Whaley, Clerk of the Board
Mr. Robert Nielsen, CEO/Regional VP – Cert. #7003-3110-0004-3149-4891
Dennis Pantano, Senior Area Manager – Cert. #7003-3110-0004-3149-4884
Damian Ribar, Division Vice President, WC – Cert. #7003-3110-0004-4914

**Chairwoman
Cheryl L. Grieb**

District 4

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Thursday, May 16, 2019

**Coal Ash Statement from Osceola County Board of County Commissioners
Chairwoman Cheryl Grieb**

The JED landfill is a privately owned and operated Class 1 facility that is regulated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). If any materials at that landfill were dangerous or unsafe, the DEP is mandated to take action. DEP recently inspected the JED Landfill; a copy of the inspection report is on file with DEP (407-897-4100).

DEP – not Osceola County – has allowed coal ash from other locations to be disposed of at the JED landfill for a number of years, as well as the other 40 (forty) Class 1 landfills in Florida, as well as 12 (twelve) coal ash monofills at power plants.

Approving the request from Waste Connections on April 1, 2019 allowed us to act in a humanitarian manner by assisting Puerto Rico in the still-ongoing cleanup and recovery from the devastating hurricanes of the past few years. Resources are scarce in the islands – and that includes Class 1 regulated landfills. As home to one of the largest Puerto Rican populations in the United States, including storm evacuees, Osceola County is naturally sympathetic to the ongoing plight in Puerto Rico. However, after hearing from so many citizens – many of whom spoke passionately about their concerns – we have requested that Waste Connections voluntarily release us from the contractual agreement that was approved on April 1.

Pending their reply, it is important to recognize the critical role of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in regulating the JED landfill and in allowing coal ash to be stored in the JED landfill and other Class 1 facilities.

As Chairwoman of the Osceola County Board of County Commissioners, I can assure every resident in Osceola County that our board and staff would never take any action that would jeopardize the safety or well-being of our treasured residents or environment.