

WATCH, inc.  
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Editor,

WATCH has been observing the Bay Harbor leachate situation for several months with considerable interest and with growing concern. It was a major topic of discussion at our recent meeting. We learned from Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council that only 20% of the leachate comes from the East Park. The CKD (cement kiln dust) piles in this area are being properly sealed with a cap and up-gradient diversion wells installed. The remaining 80% of the leachate comes from CKD piles under the golf course. Properly sealing and installing wells reduces the leachate flow by as much as 40%.

We feel that injecting the leachate into a well at Alba is a very bad idea because the science indicates that it could affect the Lake Charlevoix watershed, and possibly other watersheds, in the long term. We feel that the problem should be handled on-site. Therefore we have passed the following resolution:

1. WATCH is opposed to the Alba injection well.
2. The CKD piles under the golf course should be capped and up-gradient diversion wells should be installed as was done in the East Park. This should be done in a timely manner.
3. The Petoskey waste water treatment plant should be upgraded to handle the leachate and reduce the mercury and other heavy metals from entering the bay. This should also be done in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Bill Henne, President