

# Landfill project going to court

■ Suit names DEC in move to block expansion of Perinton facility.

**NICOLE LEE**  
STAFF WRITER

PERINTON — Controversy involving an expansion proposal for the High Acres Landfill and Recycling Center has moved from the community into the courtroom.

On Monday, Knauf Shaw LLP, the law firm representing the Preserve Scenic Perinton Alliance, filed a lawsuit in state Supreme Court against the state Department of Environmental Conservation.

The alliance wants the court to declare “null and void” an environmental review the DEC conducted at High Acres, 425 Perinton Parkway.

“This proposal makes no sense,” said environmental lawyer Alan Knauf in a statement. “There was no public input (in the environmental review).”

About two years ago, landfill operator Waste Management Inc. started the process to secure an expansion permit from the DEC. By 2047, the company wants to expand the High Acres landfill from its current size at approximately 218 acres, by an additional 144 acres. The proposal also includes a 100-foot vertical expansion.

An environmental review was conducted as part of the permit process. The proposal has drawn critics and supporters.

High Acres is currently permitted to process a daily average of 3,500 tons of waste. Perinton receives about \$1.5 million per year from High Acres.

As of Tuesday, the DEC had not officially received the lawsuit and could not comment about it, said regional engineer Frank Ricotta. However, he said, “We feel we have followed all the required procedures.”

The vertical expansion would be in Perinton; the acreage expansion would reach into Macedon, Wayne County.

On June 11, High Acres staff sent a letter to the Perinton Planning Board requesting to withdraw the vertical expansion portion of the landfill proposal.

To date, Ricotta said the DEC hasn't received documentation from Waste Management about the withdrawal. □

NLEE@DemocratandChronicle.com