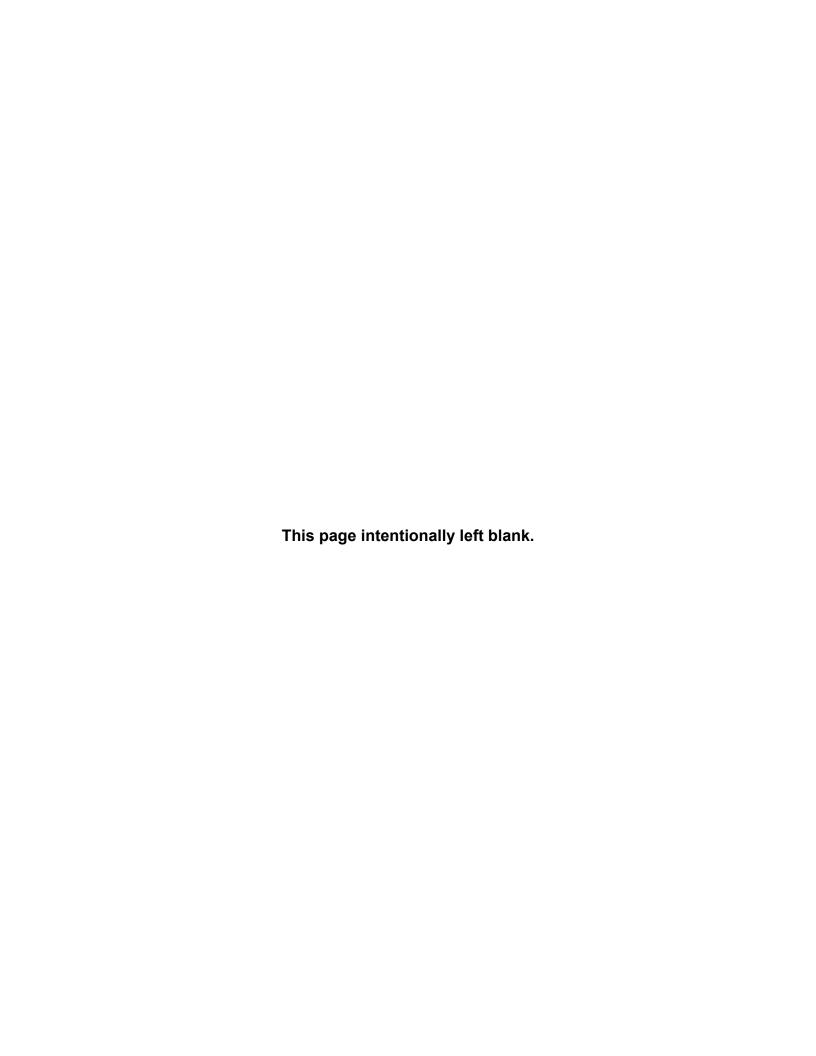




LAKE COUNTY LANDFILL LAKE COUNTY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Letter from the Chief Financial Officer	1
Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures	5







EDWARD H. ZUPANCIC

COUNTY AUDITOR

SECRETARY OF BUDGET COMMISSION BOARD OF REVISION

ADMINISTRATOR
DATA PROCESSING DEPT.

350-2532 – 298-3334 OR 946-2829 – 918-2500 Fax: 350-2667

LAKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER

105 MAIN ST. P.O. BOX 490 PAINESVILLE, OHIO 44077-0490

September 27, 2003

Mr. Christopher Jones Director of the Ohio EPA 122 South Front Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Lake County Landfill

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am the Chief Financial Officer of Lake County, 105 Main Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077. This letter is in support of this local government's use of the financial test to demonstrate financial assurance, as specified in Chapter 3745-27 of the Administrative Code.

(1) This government is the owner or operator of the following facilities (the Lake County Sanitary Landfill, 2039 Blase/Nemeth Road, Painesville, Ohio 44077) for which financial assurance for final closure or post-closure care or corrective measures is demonstrated through the financial test specified in Chapter 3745-27 of the Administrative Code and/or this local government is the owner or operator of the following facilities for which assurance for any other environmental obligations are assured by a financial test. The current final closure, post closure, and/or corrective measures cost estimates, and may any other environmental obligations provided for by a test are shown for each facility:

Lake County Sanitary Landfill

Closure cost estimates 4,622,706
Post-closure cost estimates 8,145,630
Total cost estimate 12,768,336 *

(2) This local government is the owner or operator of the following facilities for which financial assurance for final closure or, if a sanitary landfill facility, post-closure care or corrective measures, is not demonstrated to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency through the financial test or any other financial assurance mechanism specified in Chapter 3745-27 of the Administrative Code. The current final closure, post-closure, and/or corrective measure cost estimates not covered by such financial assurance are shown for each facility: \$ NONE.

The fiscal year of this local government ends on December 31st. The figures for the following items marked with an asterisk are derived from this local government's independently audited, year-end financial statements for the most recently completed fiscal year which ended December 31, 2002.

Alternative II

- (1) Sum of current final closure, post-closure, and/or corrective measures cost estimates and any other environmental obligations assured by a financial test: \$12,768,336 *
- (2) Current bond rating of most recent issuance and name of rating company: The County has received an AA-2 bond rating from Moody's Investor Services for its most recent issuance.

(3) Date of issuance of bond: November 1, 2002 \$4,905,000

(4) Date of maturity of bond: December 1, 2010

(6) Total annual governmental revenue: \$ 186,600,611 *

(7) Is line 5 divided by line 6 less than or equal to 0.43?

YES

NO

X

I hereby certify that the wording of this letter is identical to the wording specified in paragraph (H) of Rule 3745-27-17 of the Administrative Code as such rule was constituted on the date shown immediately below. I further certify the following: (1) The local government's financial statements are prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for governments; (2) The local government has not operated at a deficit equal to five percent or more total annual revenue in either of the past two fiscal years; (3) The local government is not in default on any outstanding general obligation bonds; and, (4) The local government does not have outstanding general obligations rated less than BBB as issued by "Standard and Poor's" or Baa as issued by "Moody's".

Edward H. Zupancic, Lake County Auditor

9-27-03 Pata

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Christopher Jones, Director,
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
and
The Honorable County Auditor, Treasurer,
and Board of County Commissioners
Lake County
105 Main Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077

We have audited, in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of Lake County for the year ended December 31, 2002, and have separately issued our unqualified report thereon dated September 27, 2003.

In a letter to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency dated September 27, 2003 (the Letter), Edward Zupancic, Auditor for Lake County (including the County's sanitary landfill) specified that certain amounts disclosed in that Letter were derived from the independently audited financial statements referred to in the first paragraph above.

We have performed the procedures described below as agreed to by the Board of County Commissioners and by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, solely to assist you in determining that certain amounts reported in the Letter agreed to, or can be computed from, amounts presented in the audited basic financial statements. The Lake County management is responsible for the information presented in the Letter. We followed the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards for agreed-upon procedures engagements. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the addressees. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

As required by Ohio Administrative Code Sections 3745-27-15(L)(5)(c), 3745-27-16(L)(5)(c) and 3745-27-18(M)(5)(c), we have agreed the following amounts included in the Letter to the audited financial statements:

Alternative 2, Line No.

5 Total assured environmental costs*

6 Total annual revenue

* The amounts on lines 5 and 6 agree to the basic fund financial statements of Lake County, or can be computed from amounts appearing therein. We followed the definition for line 6 included in the State Support Document for the Local Government Financial Test, issued November 27, 1996 by the USEPA. Line 5 includes total assured environmental costs reported in the fund financial statements following Governmental Accounting Statement Number 18.

Lausche Building / 615 Superior Ave., NW / Twelfth Floor / Cleveland, OH 44113-1801 Telephone: (216) 787-3665 (800) 626-2297 Fax: (216) 787-3361 www.auditor.state.oh.us Lake County Landfill
Lake County
Independent Accountants' Report on Applying
Agreed-Upon Procedures
Page 2

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be to express an opinion on the Letter. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that we would have reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the addressees listed above and should not be used by anyone else.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

September 27, 2003



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LAKE COUNTY LANDFILL

LAKE COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED NOVEMBER 18, 2003