

July 6, 2017

Warren Goetsch & Doug Owens
Illinois Dept of Agriculture
P.O. Box 19281, Springfield, IL 62794-9281

Dear Mr. Goetsch and Mr. Owens:

This letter follows previous letters I have submitted to you on behalf of the Concerned Citizens of Isabel Township regarding the Isabel Memorial Park in Isabel Township.

As stated in the most recent letter on June 6, 2017, we disagree with the opinion of the company as stated in the letter to the IDOA from Frank and West dated 5/12/2017. Isabel Memorial Park does qualify under the LMFA as a populated area within the setback area of the proposed facility. This property has been used for many years for community gatherings, camping, and recreational activities. It will continue to be used in the future as a gathering area visited by at least 50 people per week during the time it is open.

We provided the names of those who have visited the park in the past and those who will visit it in the future in our letter sent on 3/31/2017. As of the end of the day on July 3, 2017, we have documented 1,181 visits, which equates with a weekly average of 78 visits. The updated listing at right provides the number of documented visitors each week up through the end of the day on 7/3/2017. The park was visited by 111 people for the 4th of July weekend activities held on 7/1 & 7/2 that included camping, fishing, campfires, great food, and lots of fun catching up with friends and neighbors.

If necessary for the Department's investigation, we will continue to provide documentation of the park's usage to demonstrate that it meets the definition of a "common place of assembly" or "populated area" under the law for purposes of determining setbacks.

The existence of this common place of assembly within the setback for a populated area requires that the Department deny the application at this time.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. We await the Department's written response regarding how this issue is being addressed.

Sincerely,
Concerned Citizens of Isabel Township
Tracy Tomm, Representative
14002 E Back Road, Lewistown, IL 61542
309-338-1520
ttomm68@gmail.com

CC: Governor Bruce Rauner, Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Sen. Jil Tracy, Rep. Norinne Hammond, Sen. Dave Koehler, Rep. Mike Unes

Isabel Memorial Park Documented Visits	
(As of 7/3/2017)	
3/21 - 3/27	32
3/28 - 4/3	44
4/4 - 4/10	103
4/11 - 4/17	144
4/18 - 4/24	53
4/25 - 5/1	50
5/2 - 5/8	79
5/9 - 5/15	56
5/16 - 5/22	45
5/23 - 5/29	63
5/30 - 6/5	78
6/6 - 6/12	84
6/13 - 6/19	93
6/20 - 6/26	79
6/27 - 7/3	178
Total = 1,181	
Weekly Average = 78	