

Proposed Allentown Clean Air Ordinance

SUMMARY

The Allentown Clean Air Ordinance protects Allentown from new incinerator pollution by:

- Requiring real-time monitoring of pollutants,
- Requiring real-time disclosure of the emissions data on a public website, and
- Requiring that emissions be kept to levels comparable to those of natural gas burning power plants.

It applies only to "New Air Polluting Facilities," which are defined as: "any facility, located in the City of Allentown, that commences operation after the effective date of this ordinance, which produces energy or disposes of waste by combusting a Solid Fuel or Waste or gases produced from Solid Fuel or Waste, and which is capable of processing at least one ton per day."

It requires continuous monitoring of (and real-time disclosure of data on) the following pollutants:

- Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) & Carbon Monoxide (CO)
- Acid Gases: Hydrochloric Acid (HCl) & Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)
- Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x)
- Sulfur Oxides (SO_x)
- Particulate Matter (PM)
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Toxic metals: Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Zinc
- Any other pollutants for which the state DEP sets emissions limits in a permit.

Certain types of facilities may also be required to continuously monitor:

- Dioxins and furans
- Ammonia
- Nitrous oxide (N₂O)

It sets emissions limits for the following pollutants, to ensure that the facility is not more polluting than a similar-sized natural gas burning facility:

- Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)
- Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x)
- Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)
- Dioxins and furans

Any New Air Polluting Facility covered by the ordinance is required to pay fees to the City to cover the cost of implementing and enforcing the ordinance. Civil and criminal penalties may be imposed for violations. Any City resident may sue to enforce the ordinance if the City fails to do so.

READ THE ENTIRE ORDINANCE:

www.stoptheburn.org/documents/
or
ask a petitioner for a copy
or
read it at Allentown Public Library

Get involved!

We need your help through mid-March collecting signatures to put this issue to the voters in November.

Contact us at:

Allentown Residents for Clean Air

484-891-1247

contact@stoptheburn.org

www.StopTheBurn.org

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/StopTheBurnAllentown

Allentown Residents for Clean Air

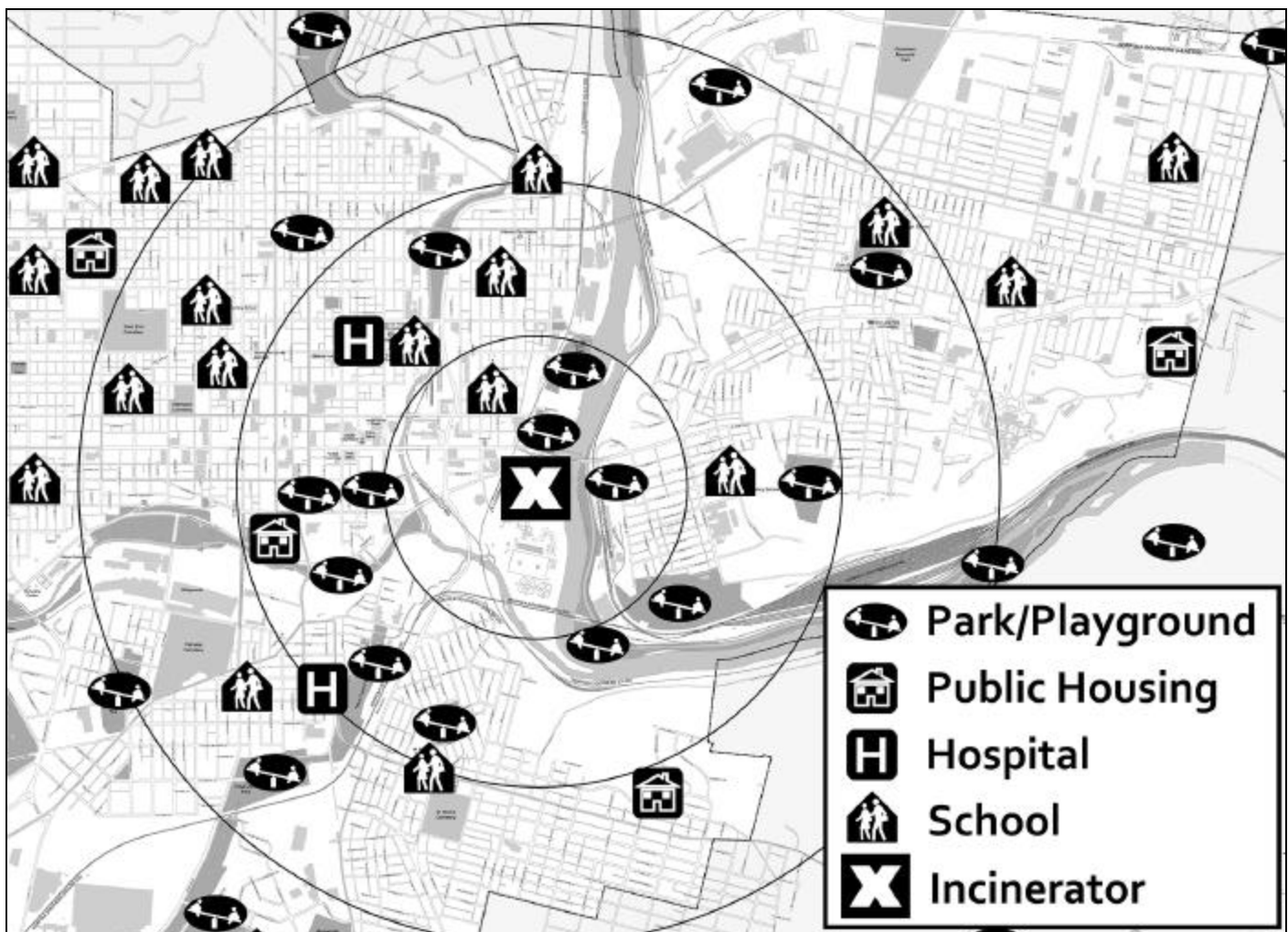
~ organizing to save Allentown from toxic incinerator pollution ~

Delta Thermo Energy plans to build an **experimental waste incinerator** in Allentown to burn **100 tons/day of trash and 50 tons/day of toxic sewage sludge**.

Waste incinerators put out more pollution than a similar-sized coal power plant and are the most expensive and dangerous way to dispose of waste. Allentown deserves better!

In March 2012, the city signed a 35-year contract with Delta Thermo Energy. However, it's **NOT A DONE DEAL:**

- Financing is not in place, and most of these experimental incinerator plans fail because investors aren't willing to risk their money on them, especially when:
- Permits are not in place: Delta Thermo has an ongoing legal dispute with the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), where they are trying to get out of the most minimal air pollution requirements, claiming that they are exempt because they are a research and development facility (even though the incinerator will be providing commercial service to Allentown).
- Even if Delta Thermo gets financing and resolves their permit dispute with DEP, **Allentown voters can adopt protective air pollution protections at the city level**, since state law allows local governments to have stricter air pollution laws.



The incinerator would be built at the sewage treatment plant near Hamilton Street Bridge.