



P.O. Box 1790  
Rochester, New York 14692-1790 USA

November 26, 1990

Mr. Ben Hall  
Environmental Response Division  
MDNR Region III Headquarters  
P.O. Box 30028  
Lansing, MI 48909

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Region III Headquarters

Dear Mr. Hall:

AC Rochester has contracted with Roy F. Weston, Inc. to perform the site investigation and interim remedial measures evaluation at Linden Road Landfill. Weston will work with you directly to resolve the technical issues raised in your conditional approval letter dated October 10, 1990.

Following are responses to other items mentioned in your letter or during our subsequent phone conversation.

1. You are welcome to visit the site on request to observe work in progress and/or split samples. Please call Ron Neahusan at (313)257-7982 to arrange visits.
2. In response to your request for access to any weekly or monthly work progress meetings, no such regularly scheduled meetings are planned. However, Weston will be submitting monthly progress letters to AC Rochester, and a copy will be forwarded to you. In addition, you will be included in meetings or conference calls as required to resolve major problems encountered in implementing the work plans. Please let me know if you feel more direct involvement on your part is appropriate.
3. Enclosed for your information are several recent articles concerning Linden Road Landfill, as well as a letter distributed by AC Rochester to approximately 40 nearby residents. Prior to distribution of the letter, AC Rochester met with Rod Schumaker, Flint Township Supervisor, and three of Township trustees.

Please feel free to contact me at (716)647-4766 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Eisenman  
Senior Environmental Engineer

THE FLINT JOURNAL  
FRIDAY, NOV. 16, 1990

## Flint Twp. residents pleased with testing of former landfill site

By TIM DORAN  
Journal staff writer

FLINT TWP. — Residents and township officials say they are pleased that AC Rochester has begun testing at the Linden Road landfill to determine possible pollutants and future clean-up methods.

The General Motors division hired Roy F. Weston Inc. and other environmental engineering firms to test the 40-acre site, on the west side of Linden Road between W. Court Street and Calkins Road.

AC spokesman Daniel L. Dolan said the testing could cost up to \$500,000.

"Our long-term goal is to put it in the best shape possible," Dolan said. "Right now, we don't know what's in there."

Chevrolet Flint Manufacturing dumped debris at the site, purchased by GM in 1931, until it was closed in 1969. A rubbish incinerator operated on the property before GM bought it, Dolan said.

Chevrolet Flint Manufacturing consolidated in 1987 with AC Rochester, which took over responsibility for the landfill.

In 1980, GM fenced the land and installed test

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## LANDFILL

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wells that showed the presence of metals and trace quantities of PCBs and volatile organic compounds, Dolan said.

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) questioned the adequacy of the wells for determining ground-water quality and direction of flow, which Dolan said made the earlier findings questionable.

Nothing, so far, indicates contamination of any nearby residential wells, he said.

The DNR ranked the landfill 270 out of the 571 sites on the state's contamination priority list in 1985, he said. A current DNR list also identified phenol sulfide oil, iron zinc and dichloroethene at the site.

Disposal records are incomplete, Dolan said, but those available — along with site inspections — show construction materials, buffing and grinding wheels, paint sludges, metal chips, wooden flooring blocks, empty drums, concrete and asphalt in the landfill.

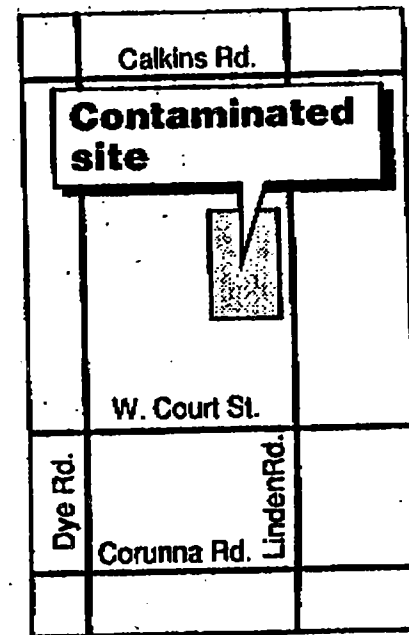
Dolan was unsure why GM did not start testing and a cleanup sooner, noting that AC took the site over three years ago.

"We inherited a problem that took somebody else 60 years to make, over a time when attitudes were much different," he said.

Workers began staking out the dump Wednesday, and helicopters flew photographers over the site for aerial pictures Tuesday, Dolan said.

The work, a second phase of investigation, comes after other inspections and historical photos were reviewed in February.

Further testing, which has been approved by the DNR, will examine underground water in shallow and deep wells and soil above and below ground.



Dolan said the investigation should take about a year, when a report will be issued showing the best methods for cleaning up the dump.

Some piles of paint sludge and barrels that may have contained sludge were found on the surface and might be cleaned up sooner, he said.

The testing should pose no danger to nearby residents, some of whom said Thursday they thought little about the old landfill but were happy AC planned the cleanup. The company notified most with a letter.

"I never gave it any thought," said Hallie Howard, who has lived near the dump for six years. "I think (the cleanup) is great. We're wondering what might be in there."

Flint Township Supervisor Rod Shumaker said he also was encouraged by AC's investigation.

"It's better than everybody continuing on and ignoring it like ostriches in the sand," he said.

THE FLINT JOURNAL  
FRIDAY, NOV. 23, 1990

# AC Rochester landfill stand wise

**A**C Rochester is approaching the problem of its Flint Township landfill in a logical, businesslike manner.

The Linden Road landfill — commonly known as the Chevrolet dump — is AC's responsibility because of the 1987 consolidation of Chevrolet Manufacturing into the AC family. The dump was used by Chevrolet from 1931 until it was closed in 1969, and a variety of manufacturing refuse was buried there over the years.

For most of that time, rules for disposing of chemicals and other potentially dangerous waste were much simpler than they are today, if the rules existed at all. In those days, the prevailing attitude was "out of sight, out of mind."

Because disposal records are sketchy, no one is sure what is at the Linden Road site, or what the risks might be.

Monitor wells have been in place since

1980, for testing groundwater at the site. There has been no indication of contamination in residential wells in the area, but there is no reason to wait for trouble to crop up before taking action.

AC has ordered additional testing, now under way, to determine what contaminants are in the dump and what cleanup methods might be necessary in the future.

It makes sense to find out now. It is good business to identify the potential problem, and map out possible actions that may be necessary, instead of waiting until a crisis develops, or waiting for the Department of Natural Resources to order some action.

With the state's new "polluters pay" legislation in place, well-run corporations and businesses will do what they can to clean up past messes on their own, before state officials work their way through the list of contaminated sites, and order testing and clean up of old dumps.

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NOVEMBER 26, 1990

## AC ROCHESTER TESTS LANDFILL SITE

By Cheryl Kruse

AC Rochester has begun site testing at a Flint Township landfill it inherited from Chevrolet-Flint Manufacturing when that complex merged with AC Rochester in October 1987.

"We're trying to identify what's happened here over the last 40 years," said AC spokesman Dan Dolan.

The 40-acre landfill is located on the west side of Linden Road, between Calkins Road and West Court Street.

The property was purchased by General Motors in 1931, and was used for disposal of general refuse from Chevrolet-Flint Manufacturing until 1969.

The site investigation will evaluate the subsurface soil, surface water and groundwater quality.

It will also identify the general nature and extent of subsurface debris and waste material.

AC Rochester has hired Roy F. Weston, Inc. and other environmental engineering firms to conduct geophysical surveys, soil gas tests, test pits, auger probes and soil borings.



SURVEYORS FROM Hubbel, Roth and Clark, Inc. map the out AC Rochester landfill site in Flint Township. AC Rochester inherited the property from Chevrolet-Flint Manufacturing. —photo by Cheryl Kruse

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## AC ROCHESTER STARTS TESTING LANDFILL

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and installation of deep and shallow wells.

Dolan said that available records and surface observations indicate that the landfill was used for disposal of construction materials, buffing and grinding wheels, paint sludges, metal shavings, wooden flooring blocks, empty drums, and concrete and asphalt.

Disposal records for the site are incomplete, Dolan said. It is suspected that a rubbish incinerator may have occupied part of the site before it was purchased by GM in 1931. In more recent years, the site has been by unknown persons for unauthorized disposal of household debris.

Area residents were notified by AC Rochester via letter that the division would be conducting an investigation

of the landfill.

The investigation will probably take about a year to complete.

"It's cheaper to do the investigation now, while it's voluntary," Dolan said.

He said the site is low on the priority list of contamination sites determined by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and poses no danger to anyone in the area.