

Council Meeting Agenda Addendum

June 11, 2019

9:00 a.m.



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
Cultivating Communities
262075 ROCKY VIEW POINT
ROCKY VIEW COUNTY, AB
T4A 0X2

D GENERAL BUSINESS

5. Division 7 – File: PRDP20190505 (07320007) – Development Permit –
Compost Facility, Type II & Manure Storage Facility

Additional Letters

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April 20,2019

[REDACTED]

Rockyview County

[REDACTED]

To Rockyview County Councillors,

I lived at this location for 23 years before I moved. I have just recently returned.

I immediately noticed the terrible smell on the farm which is 3 miles east of TNC in the prevailing wind direction from their composting operation.

I was shocked at how bad it was

We are now planning on entering into 3rd generation farming but the practises from Thorlakson's Feedyard and from Thorlakson's Natures Call have made me realize that I just can't live so near to their facility in the dreadful stench.

Please Shut TNC down or require them to cover it totally and do it correctly in a proper up to date compost facility.

Thankyou

Cole Harnack

To whom it may concern,

I, Meghan Fewster am a fairly new resident to Airdrie – moving here in April of 2016 buying our first house in the area of Stonegate on the north end of town. Even though I moved here from Calgary, I lived on the outskirts of the city and the smell of farm life did not affect my day to day life– I was actually okay with the smell of manure, as we do live in Alberta.

When I moved to Airdrie, I was prepared to deal with some smells. At the time I worked right next to Condillo Foods. I wasn't ready for the stench I did get though – my lord, there is not enough flowers in this world that could cover up the unbearable stench that consumes your day to day life inside and outside... Now let's get this cleared up, this smell I am going to refer to as "stench" – this is by far way worst then the average cow manure smells that we would get a breeze of through town every now and again – totally okay as we live around a great amount of farm life. This "stench" I keep referring too, literally smells like a rotting carcass that has been sitting in spoiled produce for weeks on end, not just days but weeks. This "stench" smell is so bad that it makes it hard to breathe (rough for people with asthma, I would know as I suffer from severe asthma), and burns your eyes so bad it is absolutely unbearable let me tell you. I can 100% say this "stench" is not just during the summer... the odour that is coming through town from our newest compost facility TNC, is just as bad on the hottest to the coldest days of the years. There is no happy medium with this "stench" as it honestly makes your stomach boil to the point where you almost throw up.

Fast forward to 2018 my then boyfriend has proposed to me and wedding preparations have begun – This "stench" has still made its appearance with no changes just the same nasty unpleasant smell. But through it all, everyday no matter how bad the "stench" was, we tried our best not to let it affect us because we spent our entire summer day after day with so much blood sweat and tears put into my soon to be husbands family farm making sure that it would be wedding ready. Being wedding ready going into 2019 everyone involved in making the farm worked hard to make sure it was be perfect for summer of 2019... that being said our family is to the point that this wedding might not be perfect after all with all the hard work that has been put into making this an unforgettable wedding, actually, more or less I am terrified, embarrassed and ashamed to even have family from all over the world to the wedding at the farm due to this "stench" smell as I'm sure it would definitely be the talk of the wedding (which to me that's not okay, as I do not need guests at my wedding on the side hurling in the bush because they cannot stand the smell of the "stench".) Like I had mentioned prior, there is not enough flowers that I could buy for the big day to have at the farm to cover up the "stench" of rotting carcasses. I am to the point of beyond mortified having my guest even step foot into Airdrie the weekend of the wedding, or any weekend for that matter as this "stench" that is taking over is not okay, and it gives a bad name to the county.

I wanted to keep this short and sweet, but just even the thought of thinking about the "stench" gets me fired up and makes my blood boil. I truly believe that Thorlakson's Nature Call is not doing this out of spite – but I do think something needs to be done to hold them accountable for what they are causing and the actions that have come from it. Composting should make people excited – not make them feel that they are trapped. I feel if this facility can compost the way they should be, in the time being they should be shutting down until they can get all the proper things in order on their end. We are supposed to be a community working together, not against one another.

Sincerely an ashamed & angry bride to be of Airdrie,

Meghan Fewster

To the Rocky View County Councillors

Re: Opposition to Thorlakson Nature's Call Inc. Compost Development Permit

Application Number:PRD20190505

I am writing this letter, pleading with council to hear the concerns of the folks in opposition to the present methods of composting at TNC with an open mind ----- not as friends, or business associates of Mr. Thorlakson, or as people with some other connection to the TNC facility, nor as proponents of composting, but as people with a profound concern for the environment. Most of us who wrote in our concerns about the TNC operation have no personal connection with Mr. Thorlakson and his family, and we certainly bear him no ill will. We are simply VERY concerned about the direction this operation is taking and that concern extends to the direction the council will take on the matter of the TNC development permit. As individuals we seem to have no power to effect changes in what appears to be a direction that may have VERY damaging consequences to the environment and the health and well-being of TNCs neighbouring residents. You, as our local governing body, surely must have the ability to effect change. Please listen to the residents of your county and Airdrie who have taken the time to voice their opinions. Show them some compassion. Show them you are also concerned about the environment. Show them that together, as a community, we CAN effect VERY POSITIVE changes to the TNC operation!

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Gieck

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marilyn J. Gieck". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

[REDACTED]
Rockyview County

[REDACTED]
To Whom It may Concern:

This letter is in opposition to Thorlaksons Composting Operation.

We have lived on our farm immediately North of Thorlaksons for 51 years. They started their company in 1970 and we have watched them grow. We worked for Ben for about 10 years, seeding and hauling silage.

We have always been good neighbours.

Since the composting began:

- *There has been a terrible smell
- *We don't want to have friends and family over for a barbeque
- *The flies have been unbelievable since they started composting
- *Now we have ravens all over the place and they spread disease
- *We have garbage and plastic all over the farm

It is worth noting that at the county hearing in December for the land redesignation all of the speakers, except one, who spoke in favor of Thorlakson's land use change were tied to them, either by employment or by business dealings.

Scotts say they are not bagging Thorlakson's compost. Where are Thorlakson disposing of it?

We objected to the racetrack application. This has caused Thorlaksons to retaliate.

Prior to this we fed our bulls at their feedlot with no major issue. After speaking against their application they no longer took proper care and attention and stopped bedding the bulls. They need bedding to stay warm and clean. Many of us are afraid to complain because of consequences.

We all know what manure smells like. We accept that smell and understand that it a necessary part of farming. It is offensive for anyone to insult us by suggesting that we do not know the difference. We are opposed to the compost stench.

Many open compost operations are being sued for destroying the neighbourhood.

So as you can see we are faced with a lot of problems. This is not OK.

Thorlaksons have experimented with wood chips. It didn't work. Now they are planning to try injecting air. It won't work. They are just using their usual delaying tactics.

We are not against composting But do it right so these issues are not present. Composting must be enclosed and handled with proper care.

Jim and Laurie Brigan

March 19 ,2019

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is John Harnack, but some of you may know me by the label Thorlakson Feedyard has put on me: the disgruntled ex-employee. I live 3 miles straight east of the feedlot. I am a second generation farmer.

The odor issue is not just a problem with acreage owners, it is also a problem with long term residents of this area. I'm talking second and third generation farmers in the area, people whose family were here long before Ben Thorlakson showed up.

Now, back to the disgruntled employee. I had to take off from farm work while my dad and uncle kept farming. I worked at Thorlakson's feedyard for a total of about 20years. Near the end of my employment the feedlot ran off into my digout where my cattle drink. I wanted to work with them but Ben did not. I was just supposed to take it. So I stuck up for my family farm and I got blackballed for it. I became an outsider of the company quickly.

The odor has nothing to do with cattle as some people are trying to push. The feedlot has been operating feeding cattle for 50 years and odor has not been an issue. The issue is the garbage they started to bring in. That odor is unbelievable. Ever since they started that we have bird problems, traffic problems, plastic garbage problems and it must end.

In 1992 Ben Thorlakson needed to put a water line in from the end of the irrigation canal up by the Irricana United Church. So he need permission from local farmers to cross their lands with the water line. Being good neighbours they let him do it. So Ben followed the waterway and put the waterline beside it. My dad was one of those good neighbours. Now when Ben's runoff leaves his property it goes down the waterway through the same good neighbor's property. Ben gets nice fresh water for his cattle to drink but his good neighbor's cattle have to put up with his runoff. I'm sick and tired of my property being part of Ben's septic system for his feedlot. Not to mention all the contaminants that come with it as in water wells and the creek bed and springs. There are numerous natural springs right in the middle of the feedlot and in water way downstream from the feedlot.

In the meantime of the feedlot running off they start to trench, trying to change the natural waterway. I always thought that it was against the rules of changing the flow of a natural waterway.

After BSE the feedlot stopped calling the dead animal truck to pick up the deads. So they would stock pile the deads on Section 33 and maybe numerous other areas. For ten years they didn't call to get their deads picked up by the rendering company. So on average they might have three deads a day for a 20,000 head feedlot -I am being very generous these numbers are low. At 3 deads a day 365 days a year for 10 years that is 10,950 carcasses lying in the area.

Mmaybe this is all OK to do but as a moral issue this is not right. Any outstanding farmer or rancher would not do any of this. They have no respect for the land or the environment or for neighbors in the area.

So for them to get away with this for this many years they got to have connections in the different government departments. No other outfit would get away with it .I am not against feedlots but this one

is a stain on the industry. Meanwhile Ben Thorlakson lives at Carstairs miles away from his environmental disaster. His wife and family don't have to put up with it.

I cannot believe how manipulative and deceitful they can be. I know because they tried to be with me when I worked there. I know how they operate because I worked up there for 20years total. They cannot be trusted to do the right thing. If this company tried to start up today they would be rejected. In my view they should be shut down or down sized.

In closing I cannot believe how many people have to sacrifice or suffer for one man's greed.

Yours Truthfully,

John harnack

P.S. The long term effects from this operation could last for decades.

From: [Lawren Bosch](#)
To: [Lindsey Ganczar](#)
Subject: Air filled Stench odour.....
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 2:57:49 PM

On a trip going North by Airdrie, a drop into an acquaintance, the odour in the air was almost intolerable, just about to make me turn back. This acquaintance told me, they live with this day in & day out. Actually, this must be a health Hazard to be breathing this all day long.

[REDACTED]
Rocky View County, AB
[REDACTED]

April 22, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I have a long history with Ben Thorlakson and his business operations on the land adjacent to our second generation family farm. I want to share this history with you so you can fully understand the man and the company. This history will show his total disregard for government directives, for the neighbours and for the environment. It gives warning of the problems that will arise if Thorlakson Nature's Call is given approval to make his industrial composting legal and if he is allowed to continue. The history shows the political influence of Ben Thorlakson. It shows his conflict of interest in taking a lead role in creating legislation that is self-serving, protects his interests and allows him to continue being a huge danger to our health and wellbeing.

Between 2000 and 2002 the agricultural practices act legislation was updated and NRCB (Natural Resource Conservation Board) was created. NRCB acts as a governing body under Agriculture Operations Practises Act (AOPA) legislation. The control of feedlots was removed from counties and put under NRCB. The Environmental Protection Act was also updated at this time.

Ben Thorlakson played a major part in the decision making of this new legislation. He held a co-chair position on the advisory committee for the Environment Protection Act and a Board position on the committee providing input for the NRCB and the control of feedlots.

This legislation grandfathered the existing feedlots – meaning they didn't have to follow the appropriate and stringent new rules for

feedlots that protected the livestock and the environment. Even with full knowledge that the site and the methods being used were damaging the environment this legislation allowed Thorlaksons to continue risking the safety of our water and of our environment. Ben Thorlakson, having a direct interest, should have recused himself from any involvement in the creation of this new legislation. His involvement in creating stringent rules for new feedlots certainly indicates that he has full knowledge of the danger his operation is creating for the safety of our environment and he continues to violate even the most basic safety guidelines.

Thorlaksons have a complete lack of riparian filters in place, which is standard good practise in feedlots to help to purify the run off from the 20,000 head of cattle. The Thorlakson group do not care.

In 2003 there was a drought but TFL holding pond ran over and came through the creek into my dugout. The NRCB knew that that the contamination had entered the creek which flows from Thorlaksons towards my dugout. But nothing was done and nothing changed.

In 2005 TFL had a huge run over. They blamed it on the rain. The fecal count was 64000 per ½ cup of water in my dugout and we had no cattle in that pasture. Thorlakson was not required, and did not do, any clean up. They made cosmetic changes – they tried flood irrigation which didn't work.

In June 2005 Thorlaksons agreed to upgrade their facility to prevent the manure mixing with the springs and from running into the creek and on to the neighbour's property by fall of 2005. This did not happen - it continued until the NRCB issued an order that the work must be done by Sept 30, 2008.

On April 8, 2014 Thorlaksons again released manure into the environment creating a “significant risk”. The manure is still mixing with the springs. This resulted in 3 orders with the deadline for work to be done ignored and extended.

On April 1, 2011 Thorlaksons diverted water from an unnamed tributary of Crossfield Creek into a dugout without a license. This resulted in an enforcement order.

I have included the feedlot history to illustrate the cavalier attitude of the Thorlakson group towards the environment and the neighbours. I include it to illustrate very clearly that when they say they are making it better or that they are going to fix an issue it does not happen. You can see for yourself on the NRCB website of the history of emergency orders and enforcement orders. I have grave concerns about the commitment of this company to follow through on requirements from various levels of government.

Thorlakson has diverted, blocked and polluted the natural waterways that run from TFL to my property. The pollution of the creek that flows from the feedlot to my property has been getting continuously worse.

Thorlaksons feedlot is on a highly sensitive spring area. They have to be fully aware that they have been operating on a site that is a huge risk to the environment and to the safety of the well water of countless neighbours. Now they have added material from the human waste stream!!

They have been hauling in bacteria laden waste from the domestic waste stream for over 4 years with improper land designation, no development permit, no care for proper technique, and no care for the neighbours.

My home is directly in the direction of the prevailing winds. The stench from TNC composting is unbearable. It is a heavy putrid odour that is strong enough sometimes to make me gag. It continues to make life miserable. Going out to do my farm chores used to be a joy for me, now on the many stench days I dread it. It is ruining the future of our family farm – no one wants to live in this stench and we can't even sell it like this.

The TNC staff deny that there is an odor or say they are working on it. It is not getting better – they may be getting fewer complaints but that is because complaining doesn't change anything and we all get tired of calling.

Composting produces a mold - *aspergillus fumigatus* which can cause lung infections or asthma and which can be deadly. “ *A. fumigatus* thrives in composting piles at higher temperatures, from about 95-104°F (35 to 50°C). A gram of compost can contain ten million fungal spores. (The Living Soil, J-M Gobat et. al., 2004. p. 346.) Millions of these spores are released and become airborne when compost is turned.” This is what we breathe. The stench is not only horrible it has the potential to be dangerous.

Thorlaksons have used the same placating behaviour when receiving complaints about the stench as they have for years in regard to the feedlot – there is no stench because they can't smell it, they are fixing it, they are trying a new recipe, they are getting better. They are not to be believed. They are following the company pattern and making cosmetic changes but never getting the problem fixed.

Stench is a health risk and it is horrible but what worries me the most is our drinking water. TFL is directly on top of a spring. That entire area is full of springs and has very open channels for groundwater to get into the deeper levels which feed our well water. Now they have added the

risk of the pathogens from human composting. We see the history of floods and run overs from the feedlot - there is no reason to believe the compost will be any different. We cannot trust that a simple clay pad, on such a vulnerable site, will keep the leachate from polluting our groundwater.

This is an environmental disaster waiting to happen. We are highly concerned the pollution from this site IS going to ruin our wells. We are extremely worried it IS going to make someone sick.

Please protect my family and my neighbours from this unethical, big business, commercial operation. This is not a farming operation. This is not an operation to help our environment. It is a money grab with no care for anything other than profit.

Please stop them before someone loses their life. We cannot procrastinate any longer like they did in Flint Michigan. We cannot allow another Walkerton type of disaster where 6 people died and 2300 people became ill.

Sincerely,

Lori Harnack

April 21, 2019

To whom it may concern:

Re: TNC

My name is Levi Harnack, and I had the opportunity to grow up 3 miles straight east of the Thorlakson Feedyards/ TNC operation, on our family farm. I can remember growing up with the smell of manure and there was nothing wrong with that, it was part of life on the farm.

But things have changed drastically in the last 3 - 5 years, because its not just the smell of manure now emanating from this stain on the community...there is a Putrid, Sweet, Disgusting Stink that now comes from the TNC operation, better known to our community members as “The Stench”. There is no comparison between manure smell and “ The Stench” like many outside of the community lead others to believe.

I am now 31 years old, and have since moved away from the farm and into an apartment on the east side of the city of Airdrie, in the community of Kings Heights. I still frequently visit the family farm.

Now, even though I have moved farther away from the TNC operation, the lingering smell of “ The Stench” has followed me into the City. On any given day or night, depending on which direction the wind is blowing, I get bombarded with this horrible smell at my home or in my place of work, which is also in the City of Airdrie. Some days the whole warehouse/ shop/front offices at my place of work are completely engulfed in the horrible smell from “The Stench” of the TNC operation.

The TNC operation is drastically affecting peoples lives inside and outside the City of Airdrie. If this operation continues to get away with their poor and outdated practices of Open Air Composting, property values will take a hit, community and family events will be ruined, and many people may get deeply sick and ill from the particulates that migrate through the air...

For over 20 years my family and many of our neighbours have had to deal with a constant LACK of care for the environment and LACK of care for the livelihoods of other farmers in the area from the Thorlakson/TNC operation. Mainly from Mr. Thorlaksens feedlot operation, and the LACK of control and care of the manure runoff that runs into the natural

spring/creek that runs through the middle of his operation...among other environmental concerns. Littering and dead animal carcasses rotting on the property, just to name a couple more of the environmental concerns.

That same creek I mentioned above runs through my family property as well as other neighbours' property in the area, and since Mr. Thorlakson is allowed to continually let the FILTH from his property run down stream, county ditches fill up with bacteria infested water, the creek has been ruined, and our own cattle WILL NOT and SHOULD NOT drink from the creek mentioned above.

For some reason though, time and time again, Mr. Thorlakson is awarded environmental stewardship awards. With that said, I have a deep concern that there is someone or some entity of the government that is profiting financially from the poor practices of this poorly run business.

How can someone be awarded environmental stewardship, when they continually prove time and time again that they could care less for the environment and the surrounding community, proven by the actions taken by the Thorlakson/TNC operation?

I believe it is time for the representatives inside of the Rocky View County Council to FINALLY step up to the plate, and actually represent the people of the County, instead of continually favouring these poor business and poor environmental practices shown by Mr. Thorlakson and his TNC operation.

I am completely against the expansion of the TNC operation, and I believe that if something isn't done NOW to PREVENT this environmental disaster in the making, or even worse a community health crisis in the making...we will all be REACTING to this disaster of a operation in the future.

So, I will leave you with this, are the representatives inside of the Rocky View County Council going to PREVENT a deadly environmental/health crisis from happening NOW? OR allow the continuance of these poor business and environmental practices to take place, and REACT to the problem in the future when it is too late?

Levi Harnack

From: [stella.roman](#)
To: [Lindsey Ganczar](#)
Subject: Terrible stench that we breath.....
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 2:45:50 PM

My family went to visit friends who live North of Airdrie. Upon arriving at their residence, the stench in the air was terrible. The terrible smell was even in the house. Can you Please do something about smell?
It must be awful to live with this every day

Stella Roman

From: [Marge Uhrich](#)
To: [Lindsey Ganczar](#)
Subject: TNC Expansion
Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019 8:36:18 AM

To Whom it May Concern

We have lived in Airdrie for 52 years and have noticed feedlot smells over the years but understanding this was a rural community, we accepted the odours.

However, in the last year and a half, the odour emanating from TNC has been a totally different scent. The rotting vegetation smell makes it difficult to enjoy one's yard when you can't even sit or work outside.

We strongly object to the proposed expansion of TNC. We are not against recycling organic materials as we use our green bin too, but didn't realize we were contributing to our own discomfort from the stench.

Thank you.

Marjorie Uhrich

[REDACTED]
Airdrie, AB
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

April 25, 2019

Dear Rocky View County Administration and Council,

Hello, my name is Aimee Sweetapple. I am 14 years old. We moved to out to the country when I was seven years old. My sister and I would run outdoors and play with our neighbours all the time. For the first five years of living out here in the country, my asthma was under control.

About two years ago, when we started smelling the stench, is when my asthma started to become a problem again. When I was little, I once had double pneumonia, and because of this I have to be careful with my lungs. When there is a terrible stench, it makes it harder to breath. When I go to take the dog for a walk, I now have an automatic reflex that it will stink. When there is stench, I have to cover up my nose when I walk outside and I get this slimy feeling in the back of my throat. It makes me panic, and I have to use my inhaler.

In my opinion, the stench smells like the a stinky outhouse. I quickly cover my nose but I can smell rotting garbage. The smell is all around our yard. Sometimes I don't want to get out of the vehicle when we come back home from school, stores, etc. because it smells so bad. Honestly, I would rather be in the hippo section of the zoo.

With the stench, we sometimes can't enjoy our barbeques or meals outside and we have to keep our windows closed. My parents paid such good money to live somewhere lovely, with fresh air in the country, but no. We regularly smell that wretched smell. We live in the country to enjoy a farming community like my mum had when she was a kid. When I was little and getting used to the smell of cow manure, it bothered me, but now that I know what manure smells like, it doesn't bother me at all. It is what it is.

What we smell now is stench from an industrial company. This is not right. The agricultural community out here needs to be protected. Thank you for your time. I hope you will stop this Development Permit expansion and think about people's health and quality of life.

Sincerely,

Aimee Sweetapple

April 25th 2019

Dear Rocky View County Administration and Council,

My name is Desiree Sweetapple, and I am sixteen years old. I am writing to you today to inform you that I oppose the expansion of Thorlakson Nature's Call compost facility.

When I was nine years old, we moved out to the country so we could enjoy the outdoors, because that's what my mum had as a child. For the first few years we really enjoyed it. We would invite friends and family over to have a campfire, and even a barbeque. My parents bought us a zip-line, a trampoline, a go-cart, a badminton net and the whole set, they even made us a tetherball set. My sister and I used to play outside with our neighbours all day long.

Unfortunately, over the past couple of years, there has been a stench, and it has only gotten worse. We questioned the stench for a while - we didn't know where it came from. Then, our neighbour brought a petition and we learned what was going on. We felt pretty fed up, and my parents did some research and discovered more about the stench that was coming from Thorlakson. In the last few months, the stench has been worse. It was winter time, but even now, we have practically been avoiding the outdoors. My sister and I barely play outside anymore. Recently, my sister and I wanted to go outside and play badminton, however, the stench was so bad that we had to go inside.

As well as, several times I've taken my dog for a walk, and I had to practically drag him outside because it smelt so awful. There have been times when the stench was so bad that I literally gagged and we're not the only ones that feel this way. No one can sit outside and genuinely enjoy the outdoors because we never know when the stench will come through.

We live in an area that is supposed to be farming. The compost facility has nothing to do with farming because they mostly compost waste from the city. We should not have to smell the stench of garbage and waste from the city. Please deny their request to expand. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Desiree Sweetapple

Rockyview County

April 22, 2019

Dear Rockyview Councillors,

Re: Thorlakson's Natures Call Development

Permit

We believe in composting but it needs to be done in a way that respects both the environment and the health of the people.

Open air composting emits a very foul odor which affects everyone who is exposed to it. Our families, our visitors and ourselves.

We cannot leave our windows open. We cannot go for a walk. We cannot work in our yard. We cannot have family to our home. We cannot have visitors to our home.

This is a very hazardous site. Leachate is known to be very toxic. I cannot express how much this concerns us.

I am not in a financial position that I can afford to have my water well depleted or even worse poisoned from the activities at Thorlaksons.

The stench is lowering the value of our property. We couldn't sell it if we wanted to because no one else wants to tolerate the stench either.

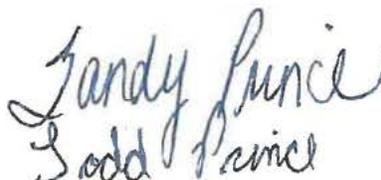
We had the misfortune of a fire at our property. Composting sites are known to be the cause of many fires. A fire at TNC could spread quickly and devastate many neighbouring properties. This is a very grave concern.

This operation should be shut down until the appropriate equipment is installed and the proper facility is built to operate in a safe environmental manner that does not destroy the community.

We have enjoyed our Rockyview home for over 19 years and now we are requesting your help. Please stop the stench. Do not approve a development permit for TNC unless the entire operation is totally covered.

Sincerely

Todd and Sandy Prince



Sandy Prince
Todd Prince

To RockyView Councillors

Re: Opposition to Thorlaksons Natures Call Development Permit

I believe in protecting our environment. I believe in composting but it must be done right.

Windrow open air composting does not work. Even with air being pumped through it, it still does not work. It creates offensive and potentially harmful bio aerosols. It stinks. It is unhealthy.

Outdoor composting plants are shutting down on a regular basis. This includes plants that are pumping air through the compost. The putrid air pollution is not controllable using outdoor methods.

It is a good and idealistic thing to try to save the environment, but this should not be done at the expense of others. One person's green bin should not destroy the environment for a neighbour.

Airdrie is quickly gaining a reputation of being "stinky city". Do we want to continue down this path?

TNC is located on a hillside with springs and with a natural waterway leading through it. If there is an accident the potential harm is immeasurable, both to the surface water and to the ground water. The site needs to be chosen with more research and with greater care.

Yes, we should compost but we need to do it right. We need to harvest the energy that can be created by composting. We need to stop bio aerosols from polluting the surrounding homes. We need to stop open air composting and we have to ensure that it is being done on an appropriate site.

The technology is available. Research the site and the methodology first. Do not approve the current development permit. Take the time required to ensure it is done correctly.

Let us join together, be good neighbours, and do it right.

Name: Mr Derek Britton

Address: [REDACTED] Airdrie, AB

Airdrie Alberta
April 25, 2019

Rocky View Council Members

Re: Thorlaksons Nature's Call Composting

Thorlakson is clearly not in compliance with Alberta Environment policy and regulations with this composting facility. This is partly due in my opinion to AE Inspection personnel not doing their job and issuing stop work orders and facility shut down notices for non compliance of regulations. Having worked in the O&G Industry for 36 years, part of this time with the Original ERCB, any O&G Company or Service Company operating like Thorlakson would have been Shut Down until they had cleaned up their act and complied with the operating regulations.

The enforcement and compliance should be in respect to the transfer of Noxious weeds being spread in Our area, traffic safety, noise, County road damage, the spread of disease by animals and birds, property value decrease.

The most important part of this Problem is the Country and City of Airdrie Residents right to be able to enjoy their chosen places to live without being affected by abusive odors and the worry of health problems from contaminated Air and Drinking Water.

There is no excuse for this contamination and odor to be allowed as it has been proven that they can be contained in an enclosed structure. Cost is not a valid argument for this to happen. Therefore the increase in volume to this site should not be allowed, in fact this Facility should be Shut Down until TNC has built a Facility that contains all Odors and Contaminants.

Do the Right Thing for the People of this Area and make an Example for the Province of Alberta!!



Quidrie, Alberta
April 24/2019

Rocky View Council Members

Re: Thorlakson's Nature's Call Composting

You know as well as I that the compost facility, namely Thorlakson Nature's Call Inc. should not be allowed to operate under the current conditions.

It is absolutely absurd that you as Councillors allow an operation such as this to continue, whereby our water, soil and air are being "contaminated" in and around Quidrie.

I hope you feel proud of yourselves. It is your responsibility to contact and resolve issues such as this with "Alberta Environment". We all know there must be astringent laws enforced to prevent a DISASTER such as this to continue.

Act Now!



[REDACTED]
Rocky View County, Alberta
[REDACTED]

Attention: Lindsey Ganczar

RE: Opposition to Thorlaksons Open Air Compost

We have lived in this home for 18 years.

We have never had a problem with the smell from the horses and cows in our area. But the smell from TNC composting is absolutely horrible.

The stench is wrecking our quality of life.

The stench is making our property worthless.

TNC composting needs to be in a fully enclosed facility with proper ventilation and air filters.

If that is not done it needs to be shut down completely.

Respectfully,

Monty and Paris LeBlanc

April 18, 2019

Rocky View County

Re: Expansion of the Composting at TNC

As a concerned resident of Airdrie I would like the County of Rocky View and the City of Airdrie to reconsider the expansion of the composting that is being done at Thorlakson Nature's Call.

This facility has the potential to effect the quality of lives in a twenty mile radius. The real possibility of ground water contamination, poor air quality, disease and decreasing land values of acreage owners and property values in Airdrie. Does the City of Airdrie really want to have a stench like Brooks Alberta or even worse.

Please consider this request until proper regulations are in place.

Ryan: Jean Bortea
Quadrice