

Sherilyn Young

My comments come from the perspective of a community member who has lived near the Metro plant my whole life. I am concerned about all the sources of pollution and contamination that are competing with our healthy air, soil and water and I'm afraid they will dominate if projects like this are not described and impacts on them accurately measured. While the construction of the fourth incinerator at the Metro Plant has merits which are described in the EAW, it is not complete

I've lived in the area and been exposed to the human progress and folly in this area most of my life. The early years in my parent's home and in my elementary school were spent 5.25 miles southwest of the Metro Plant, as the crow flies. Now, for more than 30 years, I have lived 2.5 west of it. However, some of my neighbors live less than a mile from it, less than 5,000 feet due west, just west of Southport industrial area.

The EAW has not fully considered the residents who live close by, in the West Side neighborhood, and the impact the current and future development at the Metro Plant will have on them and their quality of life. There is a significant amount of St. Paulites who live between 4,700 feet and a mile west of the plant. Yet in multiple parts of the EAW, these residential areas are not described or considered. South St Paul neighbors live less than a mile from the plant, but they are not considered either.

Sacred Sites

Well known sites sacred to the indigenous Dakota people are not mentioned, including the burial mounds at Indian Mounds Regional Park and Wakan Tipi (aka Carver's) cave in Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary. The historic village of the Kaposia Dakota was just north of the Metro Plant. After they were removed west of the Mississippi, the Kaposia village was within a mile of the plant. Riverview Cemetery is on the hill overlooking the river valley just over a mile from the plant, but it is not mentioned.

Land Use

The most this worksheet mentions these residents is in the following statement, "On the western bank of the Mississippi River, the land use is a combination of industrial uses, parkland, residential, and the Saint Paul Airport approximately one mile away." That is not enough and I ask that people living on the West Side be seriously considered.

Air quality

Another example is air quality. The general statement, "Based on the air dispersion modeling and cumulative impact analysis for the Project, the Metro Plant will comply with the applicable air quality standards and is not expected to contribute to an adverse cumulative potential air quality effect" is just not enough.

Noise

Without further study about noise impact this EAW is not complete. Despite what I've described above the worksheet states, "the Metro Plant is in a zone designated for industrial use and is not near residential properties." I disagree.