

# Nicholas Maxwell

Subject: Public Comment on the Conduct of the Current Hearing

To Whom It May Concern,

As a party to this proceeding, I am compelled to express my deep concerns regarding the conduct of the current hearing process. The nature of this hearing has increasingly appeared to be a sham, marred by systemic issues that compromise its integrity and fairness.

Firstly, there has been a notable conflict of interest in handling opposing counsel's apparent handling of my Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA) request which required a full 15 days to facilitate the inspection of the Administrative Record (AR). This inexplicable delay in providing access to crucial documents undercuts the purpose of IPRA and hindered my meaningful public participation.

Furthermore, the counsel for the applicant has shown a consistent unwillingness to adhere to the basic procedural rules regarding the submission of exhibits. Despite this clear violation, whereby Universal Waste System's (USW's) exhibits should have been labeled USW Exhibit 1, etc. Nevertheless, the hearing officer has deemed these submissions as "substantially compliant," effectively condoning this disregard for established guidelines.