

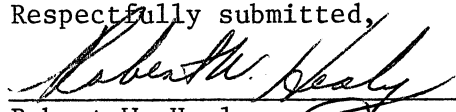
NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT OF A
SITE FOR REFUSE FACILITY

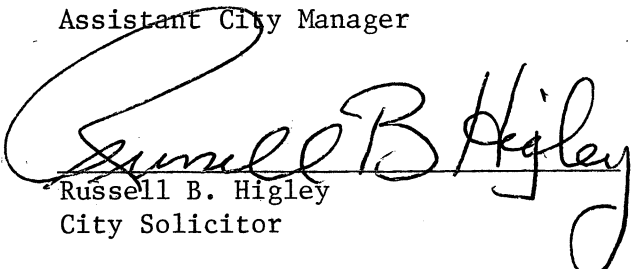
As a Result of a Public Hearing held on Wednesday, September 6, 1978 under the provisions of Chapter 111, Section 150A of Massachusetts General Laws, notice is hereby given of approval of the petition of Bioran Medical Laboratory for assignment of 9 Columbia Street as a site for a refuse disposal facility, e.g. an incinerator as approved by the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, subject to compliance with the provisos of said approval.

Site approval is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the stack height be reduced from 52 feet to 26 feet in response to the objections of the parish;
- 2) That in addition to inspectors from the Department of Public Health, Inspectors from the City of Cambridge Health Department may recommend rescission of assignment of the site upon a determination that the incinerator is being operated in a manner that results in a nuisance or danger to public health.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert W. Healy
Assistant City Manager


Russell B. Higley
City Solicitor

CC: James L. Sullivan, City Manager
Cambridge City Council
Paul Healy, City Clerk
J.R. Fennell
Janet Rose
Rev. Leroy Attles

Public Hearing
September 6, 1978
City Council Chamber
Cambridge, MA 02139

The hearing commenced at 7:00 P.M. The hearing was chaired by Mr. Robert^w Healy, Assistant City Manager, in place of Dr. Francis L. Comunale, Commissioner of Health, Hospital and Welfare.

The purpose of the hearing was to take testimony on the petition of Bioran Medical Laboratory for assignment by the Commissioner of 9 Columbia St. as a site for a refuse disposal facility, e.g., an incinerator. The hearing was conducted according to the provisions of Chapter 111, Section 150A of the General Laws.

Speaking in favor of the petition was J. R. Fennell, President, Bioran Medical Laboratory, 415 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge. Mr. Fennell stated that his laboratory has been situated in Cambridge since 1964. His company analyzes blood specimens which are delivered to 9 Columbia Street from physicians' offices and satellite centers throughout New England. Mr. Fennell estimates that he currently disposes 500 pounds of waste per day in his dumpster. He also stated that he has been informed by his waste disposal contractor, Browning-Ferris Industries, that they will no longer be able to collect his laboratory wastes. This fact and collection problems brought on by the past winter storms led Mr. Fennell to conclude that an incinerator was the solution to his waste disposal problems. Plans

for the incinerator were submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) and approved by that Department in May, 1978. Mr. Fennell mentioned that the stack height of the incinerator is 52 feet which is double what DEQE requires.

Seven people spoke in opposition to the petition.

Mr. James Pope, 24 Tufts Street, stated that he was a 10 year resident of Cambridge. He opposed any neighborhood being used to burn biological materials. He mentioned that the only other similar facility in the area to the one proposed here is in Quincy. Mr. Pope questioned what would happen to the waste after incineration and whether samples from Bioran's satellite laboratories would be burned in Cambridge.

Mr. Healy stated that questions raised during testimony would be discussed at the conclusion of all testimony.

Ms. Gloria Thompson, 82 Chilton Street, stated that she was concerned about the environment and the nature of the materials to be incinerated. She mentioned that the proposed site is a heavily congested area ~~in~~ⁱⁿ close proximity to a church and day-care center. She said she was concerned that the notice of the hearing was not translated into other languages.

Zelma Evelyn, 301 Walden Street, stated she was a board member of St. Paul's A.M.E. Church which is situated across the street from the proposed site. She was concerned about possible dangers to future generations. She questioned whether the proposed site was zoned properly and if materials from satellite laboratories would be burned at the Cambridge location.

Ms. Audrey Elcock, 36 Howard Street, stated she was a board member

of St. Paul's A.M.E. Church. She was concerned about the dangers of incineration as the church holds functions almost 24 hours a day including a day-care center. She questioned the nature of the specimens to be incinerated.

Ms. Janet Rose, Area IV Planning Teams, stated that she and a group of neighborhood residents had met with Mr. Donald Squires of DEQE and had received no definite comments regarding the incinerator. She asked that the matter be held for further investigation.

Reverend Levoy Addles, 39 Bishop Allen Drive, is the pastor of St. Paul's A.M.E. Church. He was concerned that the proposed location of the incinerator is less than 50 feet from the church. He thought that such a location was unfair to neighborhood residents and that there was not enough notice of the hearing for the matter to be investigated. His congregation is in opposition to the petition.

Mr. Frank Heritz, 18 Copley Street, stated he was a board member of St. Paul's A.M.E. Church. He was concerned about the air quality in the neighborhood.

Several questions were raised during and at the conclusion of testimony. The questions were answered by J. R. Fennell and Mr. Charles Marks, engineer from Vent-O-Matic Incinerator Corp. of North Quincy, the manufacturer of the incinerator Bioran wishes to construct. These questions and answers ^{ARE} ~~will be~~ summarized.

Mr. Fennell stated that the laboratory is in operation 24 hours a day, six days a week. His plan is to incinerate once a day at 6:00 P.M.

The incineration cycle^s is four (4) hours. The Columbia Street site will be used primarily for samples analyzed there. The satellite centers will dispose of their own wastes. Specific analyses is performed of the samples received at the laboratory. The laboratory does not conduct research. It is possible that organisms may be present in a sample which might be considered dangerous. Mr. Fennell stated that there has not been a case of disease transmission related to sample analyses performed at the laboratory due to stringent health and safety standards of the laboratory. The high temperature of the secondary chamber (1600 degrees Fahrenheit) would not allow any organism to survive. The residue of incineration would be approximately 1/20th of the original volume and would be disposed of in a dumpster.

Mr. Marks answered questions relating to the operation of the unit. Questions were asked regarding the safety of the unit. In the event of mechanical failure, the unit reaches^{ts} to a fail-safe mechanism. It cannot be opened until the internal temperature is below 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Once the unit is started it cannot be opened under normal operating conditions due to an internal interlock device which releases at the completion of the incineration cycle. The end product of combustion is water vapor ($\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$).

Councilor Saundra Graham questioned Mr. Fennell^{NN} as to the possibility of moving to another site and the time frame he needed. Mr. Fennell^{NN} responded that it was not economically feasible for the proposed incinerator to be

moved and that the incinerator should be in place before the onset of winter. Councilor Graham suggested that any decision on this matter be postponed until community and neighborhood groups could investigate the issue thoroughly.

The hearing was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Healy
Assistant City Manager



DAVID STANDLEY
COMMISSIONER

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Department of Environmental Quality Engineering
100 Cambridge Street, Boston 02102*

May 25, 1978

Vent-O-Matic Incinerator Corp.
P.O. Box 157
North Quincy, Massachusetts 02171

Attention: Charles H. Marks

Re: MBAPCD - Cambridge
Regulation 5
Bicron Medical Laboratory

Gentlemen:

The Metropolitan Boston Northeast Region of the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering is in receipt of your letter of April 21, 1978 with plans, specifications, and Standard Operating Procedure and requesting approval for installation of a Vent-O-Matic Model CAE 300 incinerator equipped with an Incinomite Model J-80 primary chamber burner, and two Incinomite Model J-80 secondary chamber burners proposed for the Bicron Medical Laboratory, 415 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts. The plans are affixed with the seal of Charles H. Marks No. 24750 an engineer registered in Massachusetts.

Review of the plans, specifications, and Standard Operating Procedure by Region engineers indicates that they are in conformance with modern incinerator design and practice, and approval is given for the design and Standard Operating Procedure of this unit for the reduction of not more than 100 pounds of Type III waste per hour at the location indicated. This may include up to 250 pounds of pathological waste per hour.

Approval shall not affect the responsibility of the owner or operator to comply with Regulation 2.5.3 which gives an emission limitation of 0.1 grains/scf at 12% CO₂.

Approval is subject to the following provisions:

1. That plans be made for the installation of suitable flyash control equipment, if in the opinion of the Department such should prove necessary.
2. That the Standard Operating Procedure be suitably and permanently affixed on or near the incinerator.

3. That the site be assigned by the local board of health under the provisions of Section 150A, Chapter 111, General Laws.
4. That notification to the District be made when the unit is operational.
5. That a temperature of 1400° F. be maintained in the secondary chamber during combustion until the temperature in primary chamber has dropped below 400° F.

Failure to comply with these conditions will constitute a violation of the Regulations.

Approval shall not affect the responsibility of the owner or operator to comply with Regulation 2.5.3 which gives an emission limitation of 0.1 grains/scf at 12% CO₂.

The Department may revoke approval if the construction is not begun within two years from the date of issuance, or if the construction work is suspended for one year (Regulation 2.1.4).

No environmental assessment form is required to be submitted for this project since it is exempt under the Environmental Protection Regulations of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, and the project has been determined to cause no significant damage to the environment.

Enclosed are stamped approved copies of the pertinent information on the attached table. Please refer all correspondence on this matter to John Desmond, Chief, Air Quality Section, Metropolitan Boston Air Pollution Control District, Room 320, 600 Washington Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02111.

Very truly yours,

Bruce F. McLaughlin

Thomas F. McLaughlin
Regional Environmental Engineer
Metropolitan Boston-Northeast Region

C- D&M-Engr. Branch
C- NEAQCD
C- Fire Dept.
C- Board of Health
C- H&K

M/Fedley

TABLE I

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ENGINEERING
Division of Air and Hazardous Materials

Pertinent Information

for

Incinerators

Name of Facility: Bioran Medical Laboratory
Location: 415 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge
Submitted by: Vent-O-Matic Incinerator Corporation
P.O. Box 157
North Quincy, Massachusetts

The following listed plans and information are classified as is pertinent to the described incinerator.

Plans

Proposed Incinerator Layout	Dated: April 5, 1978
CAE-500 Electrical Control Schematic	April 18, 1978
Plot Plan	February, 1957

Operating Procedures	Dated: April 24, 1978
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Maintenance Procedures	Dated: April 24, 1978
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Design Data Sheet	Dated: April 24, 1978
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Attested to by Charles E. Marks P.E. Registration No. 24759

Dated: April 24, 1978



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

October 30, 1978

To the Honorable, the City Council:

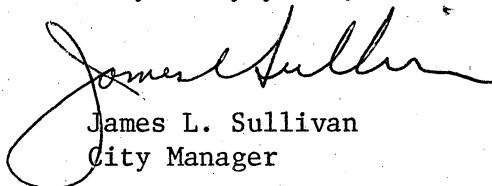
Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Notice of assignment of site for an incinerator at 9 Columbia Street (Bioran Medical Laboratories). Also enclosed is a copy of the minutes of the public hearing held on September 6, 1978 by Assistant City Manager Robert W. Healy in place of Dr. Francis Comunale, who was ill that evening and unable to attend.

Also enclosed is a copy of the approval by the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, approving the plans and specifications of the incinerator and indicating that "no environmental assessment form is required since the project has been determined to cause no significant damage to the environment".

I submit all this material to the City Council since the Area IV Planning Team and St. Paul's A.M.E. Church have formally registered their objections to this assignment of site. Chapter III, Section 150A, provides that the City Manager, if authorized by a vote of the City Council, may appeal the assignment of site.

I suggest that the City Council schedule a public hearing on this matter in order that a final determination might be made.

Very truly yours,


James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf
Encs. 3

S-437

Copy of the Notice of Assignment of site
for an incinerator at 9 Columbia St. (Bioran
Medical Laboratories), and a copy of approval
by the Dept. of Environmental Quality Engin-
eering of the Comm'lth of Mass.

In City Council,
October 30, 1978

10/30/78
Hearing set for
Monday Nov 13
501000