

**Hamtramck City Council Resolution**  
**Adopted unanimously on March 3, 1998**

Whereas, on November 7-8, 1997, City Medical Waste Services, Inc. (CMWS) conducted stack testing at the company's medical waste incinerator on Christopher Street in Hamtramck; and

Whereas, these tests show that the incinerator is exceeding the mercury limits contained in its permit issued by the State of Michigan by as much as 60 times; and

Whereas, these tests further show that the incinerator is exceeding the arsenic limits contained in its permit issued by the State of Michigan; and

Whereas, on February 5, 1998, the State of Michigan told CMWS that its Hamtramck incinerator is in violation of the Permit to Install, and must re-test for mercury within 60 days, and may also be required to re-test for arsenic and other emissions; and

Whereas, mercury is a potent neuro-toxin, which, when breathed, can result in nausea, vomiting, increases in blood pressure, irritability, tremors, and memory problems in the short-term; and can lead to permanent damage to the brain, kidneys, lungs, and developing fetuses, in the long-term; and

Whereas, arsenic is a very dangerous chemical, which, when breathed, can increase the risk of lung cancer; and

Whereas, the City of Hamtramck already has a number of environmental health concerns with which to deal, including lead contamination (another potent neuro-toxin) in land on the city's south end; and

Whereas, the residents of Hamtramck have shown their concern about this issue, through petitions, letters, attendance at public meetings, speaking out, and in other ways; and

Whereas, the Common Council of the City of Hamtramck went on record on June 25, 1996, "opposing the operation of medical waste incinerators within the City of Hamtramck for the health of the residents and the economic development of the City of Hamtramck"; and

Whereas the Common Council of the City of Hamtramck sent a letter to the State of Michigan on January 20, 1998, voicing its concern over the health issues arising from continued operation of a facility that does not meet State of Michigan environmental guidelines;

Be it resolved, that the Common Council of the City of Hamtramck encourages the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality not to relax any existing standards set by the State in the incinerator's original construction permit of 1991; and

Be it further resolved, that the Common Council of the City of Hamtramck encourages the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to take immediate steps to close the CMWS incinerator on Christopher Street in Hamtramck until that facility can pass all its stack tests, according to the facility's original permit levels set by the State of Michigan.

TO: Mary Beth Dyle, MPH  
Ecology Center  
117 N. Division  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

RE: Medical Waste Incinerator

Resolution by Councilmember Kwik.

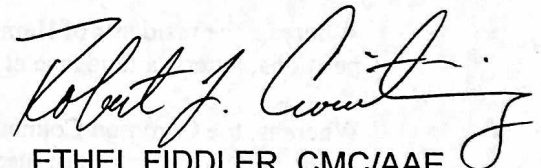
RESOLVED, That the Common Council do and it hereby does reaffirm their resolution of March 3, 1998 (attached), which opposes the medical waste incinerator located in Hamtramck.

Supported by Councilmember Wozniak.

Carried unanimously.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY That the above and foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Hamtramck at a regular meeting held in the Council Chambers located at 3401 Evaline Street, in said City upon Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1999, at seven o'clock p.m.

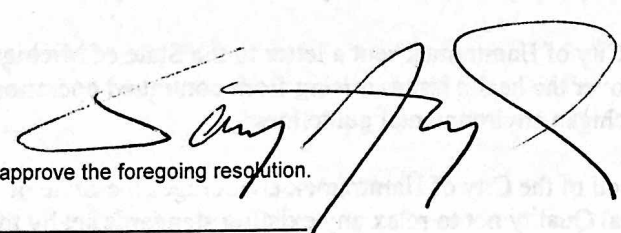


ETHEL FIDDLER, CMC/AE

City Clerk

ROBERT J. CWIERTNIEWICZ

Deputy City Clerk



I hereby approve the foregoing resolution.

Gary Zych, Mayor

Date approved by Mayor: 8.27.99