

## The Post-Crescent

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### Calumet County voices opposition to PCB waste

*Myrna Collins, Post-Crescent staff writer*

CHILTON -- They know they cannot stop the depositing of PCBs in a local landfill, but Calumet County supervisors would like the state to reconsider dumping contaminated sediment in their backyard.

Supervisors went on record Tuesday in support of **vitrification** of PBC-laden sediment from Little Lake Butte des Morts rather than dumping it in the Onyx Waste Services' Hickory Meadows Landfill in the Town of Chilton.

**Vitrification** is a heating process that would reduce the sediment with all organic contaminants, including the polychlorinated biphenyls commonly called PCBs, to a glass aggregate that can be used in the construction industry.

Depositing the sediment at the Onyx site is scheduled to begin this fall. That site was selected after the Winnebago County Town of Vinland sued the state Department of Natural Resources to bar dumping at its landfill site, which originally had been designated recipient for the cleanup.

"When we signed the contract, we went along with PCBs because we thought it meant the Town of Hayton site. They needed a place for the PCBs that were being removed there," Supv. James Lehrer, Town of Harrison, said. "If we'd known stuff was going to be brought in from other counties, we would have written a bar to that into the contract."

The PCB level in the Little Lake Butte des Morts sediment is within the 50 parts per million limit in the contract, according to board Chairman Merlin Gentz, Appleton.

The contract will be in effect until the current landfill site is filled, Corporation Counsel Melanie Buchinger said. That should be in about 13 years, according to Supv. William Scholz, Hilbert, cosponsor with Gentz of the resolution.

"All we are doing is asking that they take a second look. If they refuse, we are stuck with the existing contract," Supv. Brian Leonhardt said.

Gov. Jim Doyle has already asked the DNR to look at **vitrification** instead of landfill for PCBs.

PCBs are chemicals once used in the paper industry along the Fox River that now are linked to an increase in cancer in humans and deformities in wild animals.

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