

Last year I reported that we had a temporary approval to operate the Ketek incinerator at Fox Valley. The unit was to arrive in the fall of 2022, however the Ministry of Environment required additional testing for hydrochloric acid at the Fox Valley site. This was going to cost additional monies. At that point Ketek walked away from the project. They had invested over \$500,000 between research, time, testing and payments to other testing agencies. The goal posts seemed to be continuously moving and it was obvious the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment did not want to license incinerators for black bag garbage. They would sooner bury it in a landfill and let future generations deal with the contaminated landfills.

At the SARM Convention in March 2023, I voiced my concerns with the Ministry of Environment and also at the Bear Pit session. Personally I feel the licensing should be moved to the Ministry of Government Relations with advisory authority only from the Ministry of Environment. Environment seems to have a vested interest in not licensing incinerators even though they are used throughout the world and the Ketek Group is part of that effort. I think fresh eyes and ears with an actual vision of the future would help. Again my opinions. (Sorry about that.)

Following the SARM Convention the Ministry of Environment did reach out to our MLA, Doug Steele, Sean Checkley, Ketek and myself. I was unable to attend, maybe that was a good thing, however Minister Dana Skorpad, the Minister of Environment personally attended the meeting along with Doug Steele, Sean Checkley, representatives from Ketek and the Ministry of Environment. The Minister wants to move the project forward and will provide funding for the testing at Fox Valley. There are just a few final funding details to iron out however this will not cost our group any more money. The incinerator passes everything with flying colours except on initial startup the California hydrochloric acid standards are not met. There are further meetings scheduled. Maybe there is a light at the end of the tunnel, but we will see.

You can call Sean at 306-662-8348 or myself John at 306-662-6060.

Thank you.
John Wagner.