

Proposed Moss III Landfill – Economic Development

Project History

March 28, 2022 - Brief meeting between BOS Chairperson, Legal Counsel, RCR, Frank Kilgore, and County Administrator. RCR/NOVA proposed the economic development of the MOSS III property for post reclamation use. The discussion included a wide range of possibilities from partnering with Dominion Power (ODP) converting/processing the refuge/coal, lightweight aggregates, rare earth minerals, wind or solar energy, and landfill.

At this point, the proposed project details were very conceptual, but the board of supervisors treated it as any other proposed economic development project. Legal Counsel recommended contracting an environmental specialist to conduct a fatal flaw and environmental analysis for the site due to the uncertainty of the environmental issues. The County receives many economic development proposals, and the legal process is the same in determining whether the project proposals are viable and beneficial to the County.

5/2/22 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the Moss III Property for potential economic development. Legal counsel requested a closed session to discuss the proposed Moss III Property for lightweight aggregates, rare earth minerals, solar, coal fines, and possible landfill, but still not enough detailed project information from RCR/NOVA concerning the property. The discussions were extremely broad in scope at this point, but one point of concern for the board of supervisors was no matter what project was being proposed, based on the history of the site, there would be environmental concerns. **The board approved an advertisement for an environmental specialist to assist the board in evaluating this property with these engineering and environmental concerns.**

6/6/2022 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the Moss III Property. Update on progress only – no project progress by RCR/NOVA . The Moss III property was discussed but still a very conceptual project with environmental concerns.

6/6/2022 - RFQ for Engineering/Environmental Services (Closed) at 3 P.M.

7/27/2022 - Interviewed Thompson & Litton and Potesta. The County Administrator did not want to award contact before further project information from the developer. The County did not proceed with engineering services before needed and no project progress by RCR/NOVA.

9/12/2022 - RC BOS approved the Potesta Environmental Services Contract to focus on the landfill proposal. Legal Counsel presented the Environmental Consultant Contract, and the BOS approved the contract.

12/01/2022 - RC Solar Technical Advisory Committee met to develop the County Solar Ordinance

12/05/2022 - Virginia Energy Meeting to advise the Solar Committee on developing the County Solar Ordinance

12/13/2022 - Solar Committee met to develop the County Solar Ordinance

12/16/2022 - Potesta emailed the Feasibility Report - The report in summary stated, at this point, POTESTA has not identified any issues that make this site “unpermissible” for use as a landfill.

1/3/2023 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the Potesta Feasibility Review. More project plans and details were needed from RCR/NOVA concerning Moss III Property. No project progress.

1/12/2023 - Solar Committee met to develop the County Solar Ordinance

1/15/2023 - Solar Committee met to develop the County Solar Ordinance

3/6/2023 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the Moss III Project and Potesta Feasibility Review. Potesta Landfill Feasibility Information Report reviewed again. More project and details were still needed from RCR/NOVA concerning the Moss III Property. No project progress from RCR/NOVA.

3/16/2023 - Solar Committee met to finalize the County Solar Ordinance

4/3/2023 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the Moss III Project and Potesta Feasibility Review. Potesta Landfill Feasibility Information Report reviewed again. More project and details were still needed from RCR/NOVA concerning the Moss III Property. **BOS Regular Session - Passed the County's Solar Ordinance**

5/1/2023 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the Moss III Project and Hire Special Counsel. The County Attorney presented hiring a Special Counsel for the legal aspects of the proposed project. No project progress from RCR/NOVA.

8/7/2023 - BOS Regular Board Meeting - Closed session held to discuss the NOVA Moss III Landfill Presentation. The first presentation by RCR/NOVA of the proposed Moss III Landfill Project to the BOS and IDA with plans to develop a landfill, lightweight aggregate, and coal fines. The board of supervisors planned with Legal Counsel and Environmental Consultants to develop a Host Agreement based on research, legal regulations, environmental regulations, economic development, and financial.

3/8/2024 - BOS Landfill Public Hearing. Landfill Presentation – Jeff Southard (Gentry Locke Law Firm); David Paylor – Potesta Engineering & Environmental Consultants; Lonzo Lester County Administrator.

5/25/2024 – Landfill Host Agreement Workshop – Executive Session – Economic Development Project – Landfill Host Agreement.

6/3/2024 – Public Hearing – Proposed Moss III Landfill Host Agreement – Cancelled.

6/10/2024 – Proposed Moss III Landfill Host Agreement – Resolution Terminating the Negotiation of a Proposed Host Agreement with the NOVA Company of Virginia with respect to a Proposed Privately Owned and Operated Landfill in Russell County.

6/11/2024 – Notification to Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and RCR/NOVA of the Russell County Board of Supervisors’ Resolution Terminating the Negotiation of a Proposed Host Agreement with the NOVA Company of Virginia with respect to a Proposed Privately Owned and Operated Landfill in Russell County.