

Letter: No, DTG's landfill isn't reopening anytime soon

Nancy Lust Feb 15, 2024



To the editor — Clarity is required on the Yakima Herald-Republic's implication that DTG's landfill may reopen soon because regulators are working with DTG on required permits. For multiple reasons, DTG's landfill will not reopen this year.

First, the Yakima Health District denied DTG's permit renewal last year because it did not, and hasn't yet, provided oversight agencies with sufficient data to show they have a functioning groundwater monitoring system in place.

This task requires drilling at least six monitoring wells. Since ownership, DTG has drilled only one new monitoring well. It's unrealistic to assume they'll drill 6 wells, analyze data, generate reports and receive regulatory approval in 2024. Drilling season doesn't begin until Spring. Given DTG's poor compliance record, we hope YHD doesn't bow to political pressure to approve the landfill permit before the groundwater monitoring system is in place.

Second, DTG's air operating permit is pending approval by the Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency and received significant comments in opposition, many requesting additional environmental reviews. Given YRCAA's failure to ever grant a permit to this landfill, we encourage them to be thorough in their review and resist political pressure to expedite the permitting process.

To learn more visit: Friends of Rocky Top <https://www.cascadianow.org/friends-of-rocky-top>.

NANCY LUST