

February 12, 2026 – Springfield Township Board Meeting, Attn: Clerk

My name is Kara Okonewski,

I am a resident of Springfield Township, and owner of Oko Environmental, LLC.

I want to begin by stating clearly that I have the constitutional right to speak during public comment without fear of personal or professional retaliation, intimidation, or threats. The First Amendment protects the right of citizens to address their government — including raising concerns or criticism. That protection is foundational to transparency and accountability.

First, I am providing a written review of the Township's approved Scope of Work. My review identifies corrections and clarifications related to administrative accuracy, terminology, applicant identification, independence standards, and transparency procedures. These issues directly affect the integrity and defensibility of this process.

Regarding the recent consultant survey asking residents to weigh in on highly technical matters. These are subjects that require professional expertise.

In response, I am offering an alternative suggestion: a survey designed for residents, focused on their priorities and concerns, their communication preferences and their expectations for transparency. In my view, a resident survey should focus on community priorities and communication expectations, rather than legal, engineering, or scientific evaluations.

Township leadership has publicly noted that residents are not consistently accessing information through the Township website. If that is the case, it becomes even more important to reestablish clear communication, rebuild trust, and ensure information is accessible and understandable to the public. For the record, I am submitting a framework for a Springfield Township Resident Input Survey Plan.

I am also submitting documented concerns regarding the proposed aquifer testing plan. I have concerns about the timing and location of testing, particularly since published findings show the 'public well database' contains error rates exceeding 40 percent.

EGLEs guidelines say that unconfined aquifer testing should not be conducted during spring months due to seasonal groundwater variability. Testing should occur in late summer when conditions are more stable. The Township's independent hydrogeologic expert should have had input on well placement and monitoring. He should also have full access to all raw data to ensure objective evaluation.

Finally, this a copy of my formal resignation from the Fact-Finding Committee, dated January 27, 2026. I have not received written acknowledgment of its acceptance or a response to the many concerns outlined in that letter. For the sake of administrative clarity and preservation of the public record, I am resubmitting it this evening.

I have included my contact information should any board members want to discuss anything submitted this evening.

Sincerely,

Kara Okonewski

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