

1) What are the likely problems caused by the incinerator scenario?

An incinerator on the south side of Madison will greatly increase the air pollution of those neighborhoods. Toxic-waste incinerators release many different pollutants, including nitrogen oxide, soot, dioxins, and furan. These incinerators also toxic heavy metals such as vanadium, manganese, chromium, nickel, arsenic, mercury, lead, and cadmium.

A toxic waste incinerator in south Madison will not only greatly reduce the air quality there, but will also be an eyesore for all residents. A toxic waste incinerator will reduce both the quality of life on the south side of Madison and will reduce property values there as well.

10) What did your group learn from doing the case?

We learned that there can be a very significant negative impact on communities where toxic-waste incinerators (and other waste disposal factories) are placed.

Also, such polluting plants are often placed in low-income neighborhoods where the residents are usually unable to protect themselves from such environmental injustice. These people often are not as active in local politics and can not afford to campaign to protect their interests.