

**PUBLIC HEARING ON A ZONING PERMIT FOR DIDION'S ETHANOL PLANT
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH AT 6:30PM AT THE COMMUNITY ROOM**

LET THE BOARD KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE ETHANOL PLANT.

The Village Board is moving towards a quick decision on this matter. **This may be your last chance to have your voice heard! Even if you do not want to speak publicly, come to the hearing! All in attendance can register their viewpoint with the clerk in written form.**

On January 28th the Cambria Zoning Board of Appeals voted 3-2 NOT to require the Didion ethanol plant to obtain a Conditional Use Permit. A Conditional Use Permit would have allowed the Village more rights to scrutinize the project and impart conditions on Didion's planned operations. **With this vote the Zoning Board of Appeals walked away from the Village's obligation to protect the citizens of Cambria.**

Didion has released very little detailed information to the public and to the Village about the proposed ethanol plant. In their recent postcard to their "neighbors" they alluded to an "environmental assessment" that will soon be ready. **It is time to be vigilant.** This is an environmental assessment done by Didion's own consultants for Didion's own purposes.

The Plan Commission, at their December 19th meeting, tabled consideration of the Didion proposed ethanol plant until more information could be gathered. In response to this the Cambria Village Board passed a motion at their January 7th board meeting to commission an **independent, third-party** assessment of the impact of the proposed Didion ethanol plant.

"While the DNR will monitor air and water quality, they will not duplicate the responsibility that you have to consider the full range of impacts that this facility would have on the quality of life in the Village."

- Howard S. Druckenmiller,
32- year veteran of the DNR

In Section 10-1-160 of Cambria's ordinances regarding zoning permits, it is stated that applications for zoning permits shall include additional information as may be required by the Village Board, Plan Commission, or Village Engineer. The Village ordinances also allow for the Village to ask for the developer, Didion, to pay for any studies. Didion has made it clear that they do not intend to pay for this study. Didion states that the DNR permitting process will cover the issues of concern.

The DNR will not and can not look at all the issues of concern to the Village. Issues such as truck and rail traffic, cost to the village, property values, emergency response planning, etc will not be looked at by the DNR. In a sworn affidavit

submitted to the Arlington Village Board when considering an ethanol plant, retired, 32-year employee of the DNR, Howard S. Druckenmiller said, "While the DNR will monitor air and water quality, they will not duplicate the responsibility that you have to consider the full range of impacts that this facility would have on the quality of life in the Village."

Even with proper DNR permitting and monitoring **an ethanol plant is allowed to emit 99.9 tons of volatile organic compounds into the air a year. Volatile organic compounds have been linked to cancer and respiratory problems.** Air quality specialist Charles McGinley, testifying before other municipalities in Wisconsin considering ethanol plants, recommends that ethanol plants be sited at least five miles away from residential areas. The Minnesota State legislature just passed legislation that will require the St. Paul, Gopher State ethanol plant to move at least 160 miles from an urban center! Do we want an ethanol plant at the bottom of a hill in our Village and next to our school?

Section 10-1-160 of Cambria's ordinances also gives the Village Board the power to "impose any conditions or exemptions necessary" to the zoning permit in order to protect the Village and its residents. It is time for the Village Board to commence a public process to establish these conditions.

Conditions could stipulate that the Didion ethanol plant has to perform up to a certain standard at all times to prevent odors, carcinogens and other emissions. If they do not or cannot comply with these conditions they will need to shut down until problems can be fixed or pay reparations to the Village. Conditions could require that Didion live up to its promises for local job creation. Another condition could control truck and train traffic in the best interest of the Village and its residents.

IF DIDION REFUSES TO PAY FOR AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OR TO ALLOW CONDITIONS TO BE PLACED ON THEIR ZONING PERMIT THE VILLAGE BOARD CAN SIMPLY REFUSE TO GIVE THEM THE ZONING PERMIT. IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

COME TO THE PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH! ASK YOUR VILLAGE BOARD TO BE STRONG AND PROTECT YOUR HEALTH, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND PROPERTY VALUES!

REMEMBER, DIDION'S PROPOSED EXPANSION WILL MEAN ONLY A \$1,000,000 INCREASE IN THEIR ASSESSED VALUE. THIS AMOUNTS TO JUST OVER \$8,000 IN TAXES TO THE VILLAGE ANNUALLY. THAT'S ONLY \$26 PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR!

AND WHAT COSTS WILL BE BOURNE BY THE VILLAGE FOR THIS PROJECT IN, FOR EXAMPLE, ROAD AND WATER/SEWAR SYSTEM MAINTENANCE? WE DO NOT HAVE A CLEAR PICTURE OF WHAT THE COSTS TO THE VILLAGE WILL BE.

Call your Village Board member and let them know what you think.

They are your representatives.
Are they representing your view?

VILLAGE BOARD CONTACT LIST

Village Board	Telephone
Chet Stringfield	348-5205
Merilyn Cutsforth	348-5853
Ron Kohn	348-5817
Zane Neal	348-5003
Chris Jones	348-5193
Sherri Stringfield	348-4093
Jim Ebert	348-5444

Cambrians For Thoughtful Development Needs Your Help!

Cambrians For Thoughtful Development (CTD) is a group of citizens that has come together over concerns about the impact of a proposed ethanol plant in the Village of Cambria. CTD recognizes that Cambria needs economic development. However, the group is not convinced that an ethanol plant within the Village limits and next to the school is the kind of economic development that Cambria needs. CTD also recognizes the difficult situation that many farms face in today's system. CTD is pro-family farm but not in favor of perpetuating the control of corporate agribusiness.

CTD is committed to ensuring a proper public process that will allow for all views to be heard and all questions to be answered before decision makers decide on the proposed ethanol plant. CTD urges you to be part of the process. In the longer term CTD is interested in seeing a wider debate about planning for positive development in Cambria, encompassing the economic, environmental, cultural and social spheres.

As many know, CTD has retained the services of the law firm of Garvey and Stoddard. Because of the fast-track that Didion's ethanol plant was being placed on it was necessary to retain legal counsel to ensure that citizen's concerns would be heard. Attorneys Ed Garvey and Christa Westerberg generously provide a portion of their services *pro bono* (for the public good). However, CTD has committed to paying a minimum retainer and a portion of the legal costs.

We need your help to cover the costs of legal assistance. Please consider making a donation to CTD today. Every little bit helps. All contributions will be kept confidential.

The Concerned Citizens of Newport (CCN) is helping CTD by taking the group under its umbrella and offering its 501c3 tax-exempt status. This makes your donations to CTD tax deductible. CCN is the group of citizens that have been fighting Perrier's attempts to set up a large scale bottling facility in Wisconsin, threatening the water resources of rural Wisconsin communities.

Please help us in allowing citizens voices to be heard.
Make checks payable to CCN/CTD and send to the following address:

CCN/CTD
N9947 Thompson Drive,
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Prepared by Cambrians for Thoughtful Development, February 8, 2003
Contact us by email at: ctd53923@hotmail.com
Check out our website! <http://homepage.mac.com/oscura/ctd/ctd.html>