

# THE PRESS Hobart Section

## Incinerator Opposition Heats Up

By Staff Reporter Shannon Nichola Stoner

The debate over Oneida Seven Generations Corporation (OSGC) and a proposed gasification incinerator on Tribal Lands sparked a protest on Highway 54 and Seminary Road on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27. The OSGC is proposing to build an incinerator plant at N7329 Water Circle Place in Oneida, which will incinerate plastics into an oil which will be sold off-site. General Tribal Council (GTC) members will vote on the facility Sunday, May 5 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, 2040 Airport Drive, at 1 pm.

Oneida and non-tribal members alike made signs and a grim effigy which bore a sign, "I Heart OSGC." "We have to protect our seven generations," says Tribal member Tim Torrez as he holds a protest sign and bears a flag with the image of the Earth. "This will pollute our air and water." Kim Diaz did not support the plant's proposal in the City of Green Bay, nor did she support the plant on Tribal Lands. "My concern is emissions and the Carbon Dioxide, Formaldehyde it will release as well as the health concerns they bring," Diaz explained. "I also have economic concerns including the poor



Protestor Leah Dodge and Oneida Tribal member Tim Torrez protest a proposed incinerator on Oneida Tribal lands. Photo by Shannon Stoner

track record of success with gasification plants." The Oneida Business Committee (OBC) supported the waste-to-energy project in a recent

meeting. However, Dodge cites Resolution 11-08-00 passed by the OBC in 2000 wherein the Tribe denounces dioxins. "The ability of our Native

community to be protected from the affects of dioxin poisoning is critical to the future of our tribal nations and all life that sustains us," the

Resolution reads. "Now be it resolved that the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin requests that the United States State Department pursue ending the production and release of Dioxin and other Persistent Organic Pollutants in the United States." OSGC Chief Executive Officer Kevin Cornelius stated the amount of dioxins

released by the facility would be negligible. According to Kalihwisaks, Cornelius stated that one Turtle School boiler emits more emissions than the proposed plant will do in a 24 hour period.

Many tribal members present were concerned about the impact to the farming community and the toxins which could

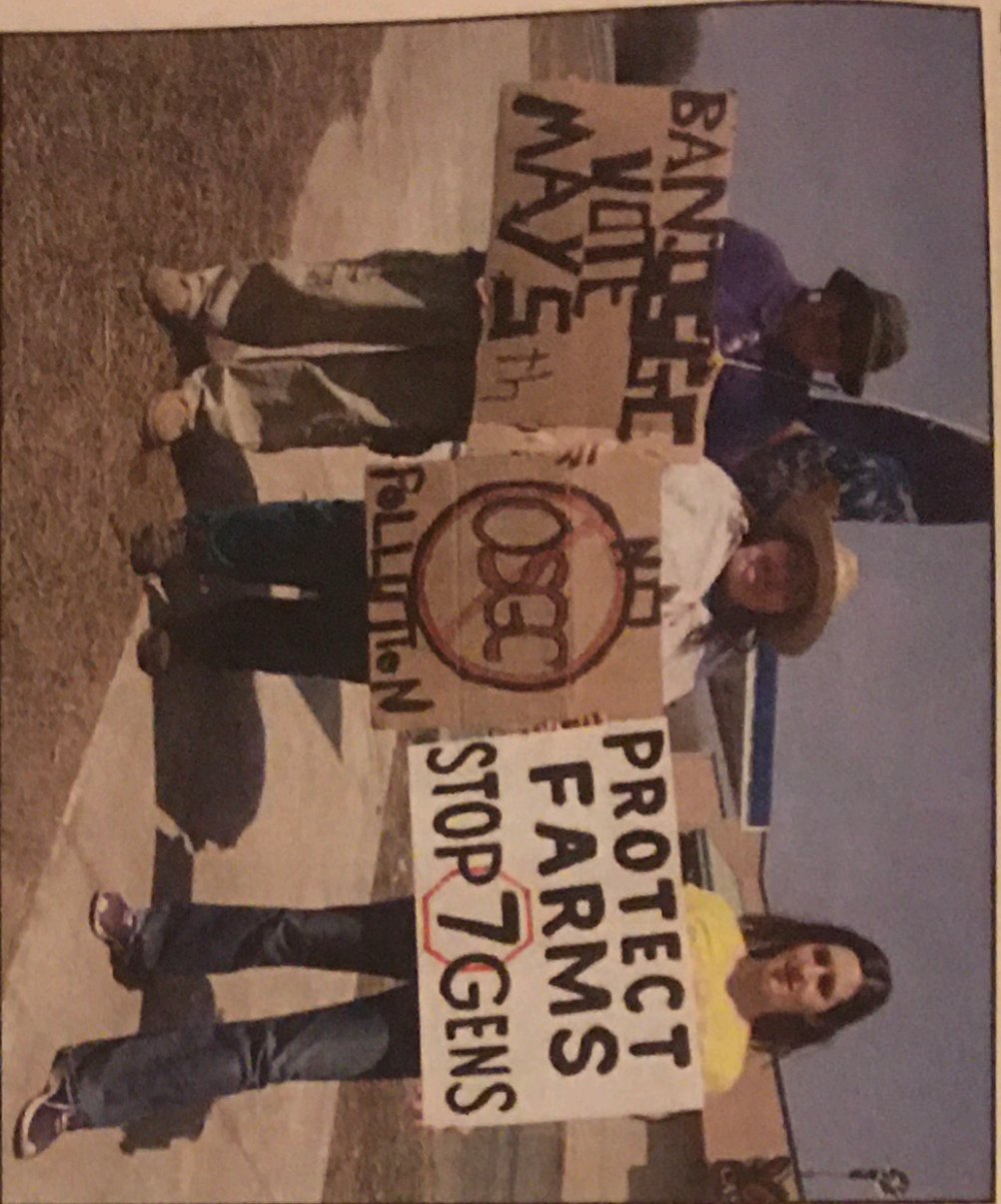
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### Letter to the Editor-

I was one of many people involved with the It's OK to Vote No taxpayer group. However, I am writing this letter strictly as an individual. It is written with the hope that fellow citizens residing in the

community might lose their jobs, just as other employees have in this struggling economy. It is no different than the budgeting process we go through in our households, we can afford only what we can pay for. These are only a

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decrease of landfill waste and carbon dioxide, reduction of reliance on fossil fuels, creation of new jobs, and generation of electricity. Oneida Tribal Chairman Ed Delgado and OSGC CEO Kevin Cornelius could not be reached for comment for this article.

**Left: Protestors** against the proposed Oneida Seven Generations Corporation's plastics incinerator gather at Hwy 54 and Seminary Road roundabout on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27. General Tribal Council is scheduled to vote on the incinerator on Sunday, May 5 at the Radisson Conference Center at 1 pm. Submitted photo.

enter the human food chain. According to the World Health Organization, exposure has been linked to severe health effects such as reproductive and developmental problems,

immune system damage, and can also cause Cancer. Green Bay denied the Conditional Use Permit for the plant on the grounds the OSGC misrepresented their propos-

al. Cornelius denied the presence of smokestacks which were missing from the schematics but were included in the plans. According to OSGC, the benefits of waste-to-energy plants include