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Huron company defends itself

Business says it was qualified for landfill gas project.

By **TOM JACKSON**tomjackson@sanduskyregister.com

Executives in a small Huron company angrily defended their firm's reputation Friday, saying they felt sullied by a letter issued by Erie County's commissioners.

Glen Ginesi, president of Engineered Process Systems, and Michael Spacek, general manager, gave the Register photocopied documents, including correspondence with county officials, to show EPS was qualified to work on a gas project at the Erie County landfill.

On Thursday, commissioners released correspondence between [Grassroots American Values](#), a Huron group, and themselves. [Grassroots American Values](#) had complained about the county's decision not to use Engineered Process Systems to develop gas produced as a byproduct of garbage decomposition at the landfill.

The county opted to go with another partner, Ameresco, which so far has not been able to bring a project to the landfill, and Spacek said they aren't members of [Grassroots American Values](#) and didn't initiate discussions with the group.

The commissioners' letter stated EPS had no experience in developing landfill gas projects and that company would not work with one of the partners in the project.

Ginesi said he talked to the Register Friday and released documents because he doesn't want anyone to believe his company is unqualified to take on projects such as the landfill project or is difficult to work with.

"Beyond that, I want to move on," he said.

Ginesi produced a 2003 e-mail written by Jack Meyers, Erie County's sanitary engineer, and sent to several county officials and to Spacek. Meyers wrote that EPS subcontractor EMCON/OWT would provide gas expertise and had completed a similar project in Solon.

"EPS with EMCON/OWT would make the project work, since they have done this elsewhere," Meyers wrote.

Meyers could not be reached Friday for comment.

Ginesi said his company did not refuse to work with anyone. He said the reverse was true; Erie County suddenly used his company's services.

A January 2004 contract with the county authorized paying EPS \$6,300 to do local engineering and testing for a landfill gas project.

After EPS reported an initial test for the quantity of gas at the landfill was inconclusive, county officials stopped Spacek from attending meetings and Meyers signed a document stating no further work was required. EPS collected about \$3,000 short of the \$6,300 it had been authorized to receive.

Ginesi said EPS had hoped to complete the Erie County project and use the experience to participate in projects in other counties.

"We had to take the page out of our business plan and throw it away," he said.

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