

Proposed landfill brings concern for Crab Orchard residents

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Joyce Haney has lived in her Crab Orchard home for more than 30 years.

"I've lived here ever since me and my husband has been married," she said.

However, she's afraid of the possible ruckus her small country home may soon get.

"They say they're going to put certain things in the landfill, like construction stuff," Haney added. "There will be trucks all over the place."

A proposed 10-acre landfill, by company SCP [Investments](#), would be located at the current Crab Orchard Limestone Quarry. Owners of the land said the future of

limestone production is in jeopardy.

"In the next year, or year and a half, we're going to be all quarried out. So we're trying to come up with some other use for it," said SCP's Dennis Hanch.

On Friday night, more than 200 Crab Orchard residents packed their small city hall to voice their concerns to SCP.

Town mayor Emmett Sherrill said while 95% of the town does not want the landfill and he voted it down in 2009, he said it could help the town financially. "If it's going in, that would give us some money to match some grants, some federal grants to we can fix some roads around here," the mayor said.

However, the mayor and some of the residents fear of environmental impact. With a town that floods often, they fear runoff from the landfill could be dangerous.

"(SCP) can't really control everything that's put in (the landfill). So if you get a load of

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lead paint or carpet, old couches, and that'll leach through and cause a whole much of problems," said Terry Brooks with landfill opponent group Statewide Organizing for Community Empowerment.

Hanch said that would not happen because of the materials the landfill would hold. he said it is classified as a "Class 3" landfill.

However, Hanch said a select number of residents could face a loss.

"There will be the possibility some properties we'll have to buy."

A possibility homeowner Joyce Haney doesn't want to see.

"I want to continue living here. Because I want them to stop- because they're tearing my home all to pieces."

Crab Orchard city council will vote on the issue on February 22nd. If approved, it would go on to Cumberland County Commission for vote. If it's approved there, it would go to state level.

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