

The Hospital Game

Scenario

Good Care Hospital seeks to obtain a permit from the city of Treetown for disposal of its trash and medical wastes in a landfill. Trash and waste may be disposed of in two ways: (1) burned in an incinerator owned by Incinerator, Inc., or (2) placed in a landfill owned by the Landfill Corp. The Treetown Environmental Committee (TEC) has the authority to grant a permit or not.

The TEC is holding a public meeting to seek input on what decision it should make. Appearing before the TEC will be representatives of the following groups:

- 1) Good Care Hospital: Owned by the Good Care Health Care Co. Wants to do what is good for the environment, but also concerned about costs. Expects to produce 10 tons of waste per month.
- 2) Incinerator, Inc.: State of the art technology allows Incinerator to burn waste with minimal air pollution. But it is relatively expensive, at a cost of \$100 per ton of waste. Company employs 10 workers from the community. The company's headquarters are located in another state.
- 3) Landfill Corp.: Owned and operated by local family. Employs 50 people to manage the landfill and haul waste. Cost of disposal is \$50 per ton. Being investigated by the federal government for possible water pollution coming from the landfill.
- 4) Citizens who live next to the incinerator: Opposed to granting Good Care a permit to burn its waste at the incinerator. Ash and residue from the incinerator settles on their homes and property. They are concerned about whether the waste is hazardous.
- 5) Citizens who live next to the landfill: Opposed to granting Good Care a permit to dispose of waste in the landfill. Some citizens believe their water is contaminated by leachate coming from the landfill. Others complain about the smell and the noise of trucks that come past their houses on the way to the landfill.

O:\CLI\9999\9120\ABA Pro Bono Toolkit re Birney\Class 1\The Hospital Game Facts Handout.DOC