Spatial Distribution of Disposal Sites:

Empirical Evidence from Japan

Yuichi Ishimura * • Kenji Takeuchi **

Abstract

This study investigates the relationship between the concentration of industrial waste disposal sites and the characteristics of local communities, focusing on the impact of citizen opposition to the construction of disposal sites on location decisions. Some evidence of spatial concentration of industrial waste disposal sites was found in areas where waste-related facilities were already built. In addition, we found a higher number of industrial waste disposal sites per capita when the municipality had not yet experienced conflict relating to disposal sites. Our results suggest that companies may

decide to locate these unwanted facilities in areas where other unwanted facilities

already exist, and/or where there is less citizen conflict over the construction. As a

result, the concentration of unwanted facilities is higher in such areas.

Keywords: Disposal site; Industrial waste; Spatial econometrics; NIMBY; LULU;

Construction conflict; Japan

JEL Classification: Q53, Q15, R14

Graduate School of Economics, Kobe University, Japan E-mail: ishimura0601@yahoo.co.jp

Graduate School of Economics, Kobe University, Japan E-mail: takeuchi@econ.kobe-u.ac.jp