

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 2 290 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUN - 8 2000

To All Interested Parties:

Enclosed is a copy of the *Report on the Peer Review of the Revised Baseline Modeling Report for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site* (RBMR Peer Review Report). The report presents the main points of the March 27-28, 2000 peer review for the RBMR.

EPA's Peer Review Policy requires peer review of all major scientific and technical work products undertaken by the Agency which involve the use of scientific tools that have not been previously peer reviewed, or which involve the new application of existing scientific tools. Through peer review, it is the Agency's intent that the science behind its decisions will be reviewed by independent experts in an effort to ensure the credibility of that science. The RBMR Peer Review is the third of four peer reviews conducted for the major scientific and technical work products prepared for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site Reassessment Remedial Investigation. Prior to the RBMR Peer Review, peer reviews were conducted for EPA's modeling approach and the geochemistry studies. The Human Health Risk Assessment and Ecological Risk Assessment were peer reviewed in May and June 2000. Each of the peer reviews was conducted by Eastern Research Group, Inc. (ERG), an EPA contractor.

Although the RBMR Peer Review Report summarizes the major issues discussed during the peer review, it is not a verbatim transcript of the peer review session.

If you need additional information regarding the RBMR Peer Review Report, or other aspects of the Hudson River Reassessment, please contact Ann Rychlenski, the Community Relations Coordinator for the Hudson River PCBs Site, at 212-637-3672.

Sincerely yours,

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Richard L. Caspe, Director Emergency and Remedial Response Division

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