



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

70128

FEB 5 1998

Richard A. Falanka, Acting Village Manager  
Village of Port Chester  
10 Pearl Street  
Port Chester, New York 10573

Dear Mr. Falanka:

This is in response to your letter of December 31, 1997 to EPA Administrator Carol Browner, and others, regarding the Hudson River PCBs site. Your letter forwards a copy of a recent Resolution by the Village of Port Chester in which the Village expresses its support for the Hudson River PCBs Site Reassessment being conducted by EPA.

EPA appreciates the support from members of the Hudson River community with respect to the Reassessment study that we are currently conducting. As you know, the Reassessment, when completed, will include a detailed characterization of the PCB contamination in the Upper Hudson River, calculation of the human health and ecological risks associated with the contamination, and the evaluation of remedial alternatives to address the contamination. EPA is committed to completing the Reassessment in an expeditious manner.

Your support is particularly appreciated because "community acceptance" is an important factor to be considered when the Agency ultimately makes a remedial decision for the Upper Hudson River sediments. EPA will keep the public informed of its findings regarding the Reassessment. For further information with respect to this site, please contact Ann Rychlenski at (212) 637-3672.

Sincerely yours,

Richard L. Caspe, Director  
Emergency and Remedial Response Division



**VILLAGE OF  
PORT CHESTER**

10 Pearl Street, Port Chester, NY 10573

Richard A. Falanka  
Clerk/Treasurer

(914) 939-5202  
Fax: (914) 937-3169

December 31, 1997

Hon. Carol Browner, Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M. Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Honorable Browner:

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester held on December 30, 1997, the Board adopted the enclosed resolution expressing its support for the Hudson River Reassessment being conducted by the U.S. EPA under the Superfund and urges that the U.S. EPA complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible.

Very truly yours,

Richard A. Falanka  
Acting Village Manager

RAF:jm  
enclosure

10.5780

RESOLUTION

On motion of TRUSTEE SALINE, seconded by TRUSTEE TROY, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

WHEREAS, the health and beauty of the Hudson River is critical to the economic vitality of our community and the Hudson River is a treasured asset; and

WHEREAS, nearly 200 miles of the Hudson River - from Hudson Falls to New York City - are a federal Superfund site due to polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination; and

WHEREAS, PCBs are the most significant contaminant limiting full use and enjoyment of the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, PCBs were banned in 1976 because of a variety of known and suspected impacts on humans and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, PCBs remain in the Hudson river exposing humans and wildlife to their effects; and

WHEREAS, an estimated \$40 million annually has been lost over the last twenty years because of the closure of Hudson River commercial fisheries and restrictions on recreationally caught fish. As a result, the Hudson Valley has lost an important cultural heritage and way of life and the economic vitality of the Hudson River region continues to be hampered by the limitations on recreational use of the River and the stigma of PCB contamination; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund officials determined in February 1997 that PCB "hot spots" in the sediment of the upper Hudson are the "dominant source" of PCB contamination to the River, and that microbial breakdown will not rid the River of PCBs; and

WHEREAS, The EPA's Hudson River Reassessment has determined that without remediation, present levels of contamination will continue indefinitely, and

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Village of Port Chester hereby expresses its support for the Hudson River Reassessment being conducted by the U.S. EPA under the Superfund, including evaluation of the feasibility of potential remedial action that can most effectively restore the Hudson River, including the evaluation of traditional disposal methods as well as innovative technologies that can be used to destroy PCBs. Further, the Village of Port Chester urges that the U.S. EPA complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible.

#### ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Cotter, Colangelo, DiRoberto, Saline, Troy and Mayor Korff

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustee Ciccone

DATED: December 30, 1997