

FEB 24 1998

Alfred A. Gatta, Village Manager
Village of Scarsdale
Village Hall
Scarsdale, New York 10583

Dear Mr. Gatta:

This is in response to your letter of January 20, 1998 to EPA Administrator Carol Browner regarding the Hudson River PCBs site. Your letter forwards a copy of a recent Resolution by the Village of Scarsdale 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

bcc: OEX
A. Rychlenski, CD
D. Fischer, ORC

Village of Scarsdale



Edward A. Morgan, Mayor

E. Markham Benah

Bernard Cedarbaum

Dorothy M. Finger

Ann M. Galvani

Edward J. Hardy

Amy R. Paulin

Alfred A. Gatta, Village Manager

Village Hall
Scarsdale, New York 10583

914-722-1100

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January 20, 1998

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

Dear Ms. Browner:

Enclosed please find a copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale. The resolution supports the EPA's reassessment of PCBs in the Hudson River and the evaluation of potential remedial actions.

The residents of Scarsdale recognize the importance of the clean-up of the river not only for its environmental value, but also for its contribution to our sense of community, history and economy.

We urge you to take action on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Alfred A. Gatta
Village Manager

AAG/dmd

RESOLUTION RE: SUPPORT OF EPA'S REASSESSMENT OF PCBs
IN THE HUDSON RIVER AND THE
EVALUATION OF POTENTIAL REMEDIAL ACTIONS

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, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village of Scarsdale 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 Scarsdale urges that the U.S. EPA complete the Hudson River reassessment as expeditiously as possible.

CERTIFICATION
THE ABOVE RESOLUTION WAS
ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF
SCARSDALE ON 1/13/98
JOAN S. GIAMPOLI
VILLAGE CLERK

10.5792