



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

70149

Janet Crawford, Deputy Town Clerk
Town of Germantown
50 Palatine Park Road
Germantown, New York 12526

Dear Ms. Crawford:

This is in response to your letter of May 18, 1998 to EPA regarding the Hudson River PCBs Site. Your letter forwards a copy of a recent Resolution by the Town of Germantown in which the Town expresses its opposition to any remediation measure associated with the Hudson River PCBs Reassessment involving the dredging and landfilling of hazardous waste, specifically PCB-contaminated sediments from the Hudson River.

EPA is aware of the concerns of the Hudson River Valley community associated with potential dredging of PCB-contaminated sediments from the Upper Hudson River. EPA has not yet determined whether it will be appropriate or necessary to dredge Hudson River sediments in order to address PCB contamination in the Upper Hudson River. Subsequently, EPA has not yet determined whether it will be appropriate or necessary to construct a hazardous waste landfill for the disposal of PCB contaminated sediments from the Hudson River. Such a decision will be made only after EPA completes its Reassessment study of the Hudson River PCBs site which, when completed, will include a detailed characterization of the PCB contamination in the Upper Hudson River and the risks associated with that contamination. EPA also will prepare and release for public comment a Feasibility Study in which the Agency will evaluate several remedial options for the River sediments, including "no-action", various dredging alternatives, and possible disposal alternatives.

As with any decision concerning the Site, "community acceptance" is one of the criteria that must be considered by EPA when the Agency ultimately makes a remedial decision for the Upper Hudson River sediments and, while EPA cannot sacrifice protection of human health and the environment in favor of community acceptance, public comments can play a significant role in EPA's ultimate remedial decision. Therefore, we will continue to keep you informed of the findings of the Reassessment. If you have any questions or require more information, please contact Ann Rychlenski at (212) 637-3672.

Sincerely yours,

Richard L. Caspe, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division



Est. 1710

TOWN OF GERMANTOWN

50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, New York 12526

(518) 537-6687 OR 537-5600 Town Hall

537-6686 Town Highway Department

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* Home of the 1986 and 1987 New York State Championship Girls Basketball Teams *

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Resolution Pertaining To Dredging Of The Hudson River

WHEREAS, the United States Protection Agency is reassessing its 1984 decision not to dredge the upper Hudson River to remove buried sediment containing PCBs, and

WHEREAS, the EPA has recently released a report that suggests the Agency may be preparing to reverse its position and order dredging, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown derives its drinking water for its citizens directly from the Hudson River, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown has the utmost concern for the health, welfare and safety of its citizens, and

WHEREAS, a PCB dredge and landfill project would have significant, long term adverse environmental, economic and social consequences for the Town of Germantown and for other communities, and

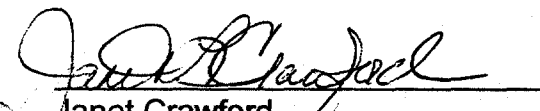
WHEREAS, approximately fifty (50) other communities have passed resolutions opposing the dredge and landfill project, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown finds there is no demonstrated environmental benefit to a dredge and landfill project on the Hudson River and many unmitigated long term negative environmental, economic and social consequences affecting the region, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown finds that a dredge and landfill project would not be in the interests of the citizens of the Town of Germantown,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Germantown hereby expresses its opposition to the Hudson River remediation measure that involve dredge and landfill efforts of any kind, hereby transmits notice of such opposition in writing to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and such other local, state and national officials having an interest in the proposed project.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true copy of a resolution duly passed at the April 13, 1998 Town Board meeting.


Janet Crawford
Deputy Town Clerk

Councilman/Dep. Supervisor
Roger A. Rekow

Councilman
George P. Nahlik

- TOWN BOARD -

Councilman
Alan Liepshutz

Councilwoman
Donna J. Diehl

10.5844