

JUN 16 1998

70163

Thom Kleiner, Supervisor  
Town of Orangetown  
Town Hall  
26 Orangeburg Road  
Orangeburg, New York 10962

Dear Mr. Kleiner:

This is in response to your letter of March 30, 1998 to EPA Administrator Carol Browner regarding the Hudson River PCBs Site. Your letter forwards a copy of a recent Resolution by the Town of Orangetown in which the Town 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

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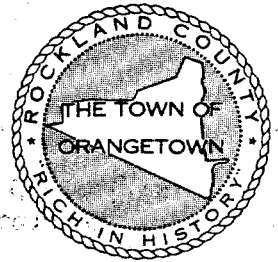
SYMBOL -->	SP/CT	SP/CT	SP/CT	ERRD-DD	ERRD-D			
RNAME -->	D. Hughes	D. Tomchuk	M. Hauptman	W. McCabe	R. Caspe			
DATE -->	6/15/98		11/1/98	Wjm	6/16/98			

10.5887

# Town of Orangetown

Town Hall 26 Orangeburg Road • Orangeburg, NY 10962

Telephone: (914) 359-5100 • Fax: (914) 359-2623



Thom Kleiner  
Supervisor

March 30, 1998

Ms. Jeanne M. Fox, Regional Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region II  
290 Broadway - 26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007

*J. Muszynski*  
*cc: Caspe / Action*

Dear Ms. Fox:

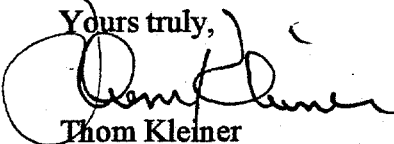
According to a recent article in *The New York Times*, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has decided to delay the study of PCB contamination in the Hudson River. Earlier this year, the Town Board of Orangetown, located in Rockland County, New York, unanimously passed a resolution urging the U.S.E.P.A. to complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible. I am enclosing a certified copy of the resolution.

*Response due*  
*4/23/98*  
*direct*  
*reply*

As a Town bordering on the Hudson River, this matter is of great importance to our residents. On behalf of the Town Board, I urge the U.S.E.P.A. to complete this study as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I would welcome any further information you can provide to me about this. In addition, if there is anything that the Town of Orangetown can do to further this goal, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

Yours truly,

  
Thom Kleiner  
Supervisor

TK:pam

Enclosure

cc: Town Board  
Hudson Valley Regional Conference  
Sierra Club  
Hudson Riverkeeper  
Concerned Citizens for Riverfront Development

OPM/PPFB  
98 APR 10 AM 9:29  
US EPA

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STATE OF NEW YORK,  
ROCKLAND COUNTY,  
TOWN OF ORANGETOWN

} s.s.

I, Charlotte Madigan, Clerk of said Town of Orangetown, County of Rockland hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution NO. 37 adopted by the Town Board at the meeting of January 20, 1998 with the original now on file in said office, and find the same to be a true and correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Town of Orangetown,

this 28 day of January 1998.

 Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 37****MEMORIALIZING RESOL  
HUDSON RIVER PCBs**

Councilman Fisher offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was adopted:

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 Town of Orangetown 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 Town of Orangetown urges that the U.S. EPA complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible.

Ayes: Councilmen Fisher, O'Donnell, Vezzetti  
Supervisor Kleiner  
Noes: None

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