



70166

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUN 16 1998

Paula Bolant, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Hunter
P. O. Box 441
6349 Main Street
Hunter, New York 12442

Dear Ms. Bolant:

This is in response to your letter of April 20, 1998 to EPA regarding the Hudson River PCBs Site. Your letter forwards a copy of a recent Resolution by the Village of Hunter in which the Village 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

Doug T. 4/20/98

RESOLUTION # 52-97

**(Resolution in Opposition of EPA's Reassessment of PCBs in
The Hudson River and the Evaluation of Potential Remedial Actions)**

Offered by Trustee William Maley; Seconded by Trustee Michael Tancredi

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 Village of Hunter is empathetic for the communities which derive their drinking water directly from the Hudson River, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hunter has the utmost concern for the health, welfare and safety of the communities along the Hudson River, and

WHEREAS, a PCB dredge and landfill project would have significant, long term adverse environmental, economic and social consequences for the communities along the Hudson River, and

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Hunter 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 Village of Hunter finds that a dredge and landfill project would not be in the best interests of the communities along the Hudson River

NOT THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Hunter 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.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF
AN ORIGINAL RECORD ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF
THE VILLAGE CLERK.

SIGNED *Paula DeLaP*
VILLAGE CLERK, VILLAGE OF HUNTER
COUNTY OF GREENE, STATE OF NY

DATE 4/20/98

RESOLUTION # 51-97

(Rescind Resolution # 43-97)

Offered by Trustee William Maley; Seconded by Trustee Michael Tancredi

RESOLVED that the Village of Hunter Board of Trustees rescinds Resolution # 43-97, a Resolution in Support of EPA's Reassessment of PCBs in The Hudson River and the Evaluation of Potential Remedial Actions in order to adopt Resolution # 52-97, a Resolution in Opposition of EPA's Reassessment of PCBs in The Hudson River and the Evaluation of Potential Remedial Actions.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF
AN ORIGINAL RECORD ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF
THE VILLAGE CLERK.

SIGNED *Paul Delano*
VILLAGE CLERK, VILLAGE OF HUNTER
COUNTY OF GREENE, STATE OF NY

DATE 4/20/98

IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE
ORIGINAL RECORD ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF
THE VILLAGE CLERK.
SIGNED *Paul J. Galardi*
VILLAGE CLERK, VILLAGE OF HUNTER
COUNTY OF GREENE, STATE OF NY
DATE *7/20/98*

RESOLUTION # 43-97

**(Resolution in Support of EPA's Reassessment of PCBs in
The Hudson River and the Evaluation of Potential Remedial Actions)**

Offered by Trustee Michael Tancredi; Seconded by Trustee William Maley

WHEREAS, the health and beauty of the Hudson 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 Hunter 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 Hunter urges that the U.S. EPA complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

APR 16 1998

Paula Bolant, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Hunter
P. O. Box 441
6349 Main Street
Hunter, New York 12442

Dear Ms. Bolant:

This is in response to your letter of January 13, 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 Hunter 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

Richard L. Caspe, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

4/20/98 mailed a copy of certified Resolution # 52-97, which is in agreement, Resolution # 51-97, which rescinded Resolution # 43-97, which was in support to the EPA.