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JUN 16 1998

Ruth Argo Mazzei, Town Clerk  
 Town of Southeast  
 One Main Street  
 Brewster, New York 10509

Dear Ms. Mazzei:

This is in response to your letter of January 22, 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 Southeast 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

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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		6/15/98	hjm	6/16/98			

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A. Rychlenski, CD  
D. Fischer, ORC

**TOWN OF SOUTHEAST**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EPA'S REASSESSMENT OF PCB'S  
IN THE HUDSON RIVER AND THE EVALUATION OF POTENTIAL REMEDIAL  
ACTIONS**

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_/98

DATE: January 22, 1998

INTRODUCED BY: Betty Brosius

SECONDED BY: Lois Zutell

**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**, PCB's are the most significant contaminant limiting full use and enjoyment of the Hudson River; and

**WHEREAS**, PCB's 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 Town of Southeast 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 innovation technologies that can be used to destroy PCBs. Further, the Town of Southeast urges that the U.S. EPA complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible.

**UPON ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Supervisor Zutell aye

Councilman Johnson aye

Councilman Dunford aye

Councilman Honeck aye

Councilwoman Brosius aye

VOTE: Passed BY A VOTE OF 5 TO 0; 0 ABSTAINED

**TOWN CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

STATE OF NEW YORK )

) SS;

COUNTY OF PUTNAM )

I, RUTH ARGO MAZZEI, Town Clerk of the Town of Southeast, do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of the Resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Southeast at a meeting of said board held on the 22nd day of January, 1998.

  
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RUTH ARGO MAZZEI, Town Clerk