



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

70172

AUG 24 1998

Richard Menocker, County Clerk  
The Legislature of Rockland County  
Allison-Parris County Office Building  
11 New Hempstead Road  
New City, New York 10956

Dear Mr. Menocker:

This is in response to your letter of July 23, 1998 to EPA Administrator Carol Browner regarding the Hudson River PCBs Site. Your letter forwards a copy of a recent Resolution by the Legislature of Rockland County in which the County expresses its support for the Hudson River PCB's 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

# The Legislature of Rockland County



George O. Darden  
*Chairman*

Richard Menocker  
*Clerk*

July 23, 1998

Hon. Carol M. Browner, Administrator  
Federal Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M St. S.W.  
Room 1200 WT/1101  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Resolution No. 305 of 1998  
Supporting the EPA's Reassessment of PCB's in the  
Hudson River and the Evaluation of Potential  
Remedial Actions

Dear Ms. Browner:

Attached please find a certified copy of the above referenced resolution, which was approved at the June 2, 1998 meeting of the full Legislature.

We would appreciate it if you would use your good offices to implement said resolution.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Menocker", is written over the typed name.

RICHARD MENOCKER  
Clerk to the Legislature

Attachment  
RM/la

10.5928

COUNTY OF ROCKLAND )

ss.:

I, the undersigned, Clerk to the Legislature of the County of Rockland DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is an original resolution of such legislature, duly adopted on the 2nd day of June, 19 98, by a majority of the members elected to the Legislature while such Legislature was in regular session with a duly constituted quorum of members present and voting.

I FUTHER CERTIFY that at the time said resolution was adopted, said Legislature was comprised of twenty-one members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Legislature this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 19 98.

Date sent to the  
County Executive June 3, 1998

  
Clerk, Rockland County Legislature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Certified or Approved  
C. SCOTT VANDERHOEF  
County Executive, County of Rockland

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

RESOLUTION NO. 305 OF 1998

Introduced by:

Hon. Kenneth P. Zebrowski  
Hon. Harriet D. Cornell

Referral No. 9137

June 2, 1998

**RESOLUTION NO. 305 OF 1998  
SUPPORTING THE EPA'S REASSESSMENT OF PCB'S IN THE  
HUDSON RIVER AND THE EVALUATION OF POTENTIAL  
REMEDIAL ACTIONS**

**CORALLO/FORNARIO: UNANIMOUS**

WHEREAS, the health and beauty of the Hudson River is critical to the economic vitality of our communities 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 1978 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, the 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 Hudson River Reassessment has determined that without remediation, present levels of contamination will continue indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Public Committee has met, considered, and by a unanimous vote approved this resolution, now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Legislature of Rockland County 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; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Legislature of Rockland County hereby urges the U.S. EPA to complete the Hudson River Reassessment as expeditiously as possible; and be further

**RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of the Legislature be and he is hereby authorized and directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to the Hon. William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States; Hon. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Hon. Alfonse D'Amato, United States Senators; Hon. Benjamin Gilman, United States Congressman, the President Pro Tem of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, the Director of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and to such other persons as the Clerk, in his discretion may deem proper in order to effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

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BML/cs  
5/27/98r