

TOWN OF ANCRAM
Founded 1803

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March 30, 1998

Ms. Marilyn Pulver Councilwoman
Town of Fort Edward
PO Box 127
Fort Edward, NY 12828-0127

Dear Ms. Pulver:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Town Board of the Town of Ancram passed Resolution # 32 in OPPOSITION OF A PCB LANDFILL FOR HUDSON RIVER DREDGING PROJECT, on March 17, 1998.

I have enclosed a copy of such for your records. Please don't hesitate to contact me if the Ancram Town Board can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Charlotte B. Miller

Charlotte B. Miller
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF ANCRAM
TOWN BOARD**

**MONTHLY MEETING
MARCH 17, 1998 7:30 P.M.
ANCRAM TOWN HALL**

RESOLUTION # 32 OPPOSITION OF A PCB LANDFILL FOR HUDSON RIVER DREDGING PROJECT

On motion of Councilman Bryant, seconded by Councilman Roberts the following resolution was adopted
ayes 4 nays 0.

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Ancram has previously expressed its steadfast opposition to the establishment within the town of a PCB landfill necessitated by a Hudson River dredging project.

Whereas, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is reassessing its 1984 decision not to dredge the Hudson River and has recently released a report that suggests the Agency may be preparing to reverse its position and order dredging, and

Whereas, PCB landfill projects have twice before been proposed for agricultural properties in the Town of Fort Edward and have twice been stopped through legal action, political action and the vigilance of citizens of Fort Edward, and

Whereas, A PCB dredging and landfill project would inflict significant, long term damage to the Town of Fort Edward, especially affecting:

- *the agricultural industry, which depends on consumer confidence in the purity of its products, confidence likely to be undermined by the presence of a hazardous waste landfill,

- *tourism development efforts, especially redevelopment of our scenic and historic river front, which would be marred by a decade-long dredging project, and

- *on continuing efforts to make the Town of Fort Edward an attractive community to live, work and raise a family because a PCB landfill would destroy forever the pastoral quality of life that is our greatest asset, and

Whereas, a Hudson River dredging project would disrupt normal recreational use of the river and jeopardize future public and private investments in river front amenities in the Town of Fort Edward, and

Whereas, the mere possibility of a PCB landfill adversely affects land values in the town and discourages private investment that might lead to the creation of new jobs in the town, and

Whereas, representatives of the Town of Fort Edward have taken an active role in the EPA'S public meetings and have repeatedly asked EPA to evaluate all of the adverse impacts of a PCB landfill on the resources and economy of the Town of Fort Edward, and

Whereas, EPA has conducted no such evaluation and has made no commitment to conduct such an evaluation before a decision to establish a PCB landfill is reached, and

Whereas, a significant body of scientific evidence demonstrates that conditions in the Hudson River are improving, with PCB levels declining in water, sediment and fish, such that the State of New York has reopened the catch-and-release fishery in the Upper River near Fort Edward, and

Whereas, EPA itself determined in 1984 that a major dredging project "could be environmentally devastating to the river ecosystem and cannot be considered to adequately protect the environment" (USEPA, Superfund Record of Decision at Page 8) and determined that "the actual reliability and effectiveness of current dredging technologies in this particular situation is subject to considerable uncertainty," (Decision at Page 11). And

Whereas, EPA recognized that the many tons of material to be removed in a dredging project would require an "impracticably large containment facility" (Decision at Page 8), and

Whereas, the Ancram Town Board 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 for the Town of Fort Edward, Washington County and all neighboring communities, and

Whereas, the Ancram Town Board finds that a dredge-and-landfill project would be a gross, unwarranted and unnecessary insult to the Hudson River and to Fort Edward, now therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Ancram Town Board hereby reiterates its iterates its total opposition to Hudson River remediation measures that involve dredge-and-landfill efforts of and kind and hereby transmits notice of such opposition, in writing, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner, Region II USEPA Administrator Jeanne M. Fox; U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and U.S. Sen. Alphonse D'Amato; U.S. Rep. Gerald B. Solomon; New York Gov. George E. Pataki; Acting New York State Environmental Conservation Commissioner John Cahill; New York State Sen. Ronald B. Stafford, New York State Assemblyman Bobby D'Andrea, and Washington County Board of Supervisors Chairman Harry Booth, and

Be It Further Resolved that the Ancram Town Board implores its federal and state representatives and local government colleagues in other communities to join in support of the town's effort to prevent a dredge-and-landfill project on the Upper Hudson River.