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RESOLUTION # 113

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is reassessing its 1984 decision not to dredge the Upper Hudson River to remove buried sediment containing PCB's, 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, PCB landfill projects have twice 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, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward has steadfastly opposed Upper Hudson River remediation options that involve PCB dredge and landfill projects of any kind, and has asked other municipalities to join Fort Edward in opposition, and

WHEREAS, a PCB dredge and landfill project would have significant long term adverse environmental, economic, and social consequences for all Upper Hudson River communities, especially affecting the agricultural industry, and

WHEREAS, a Hudson river dredging project would d disrupt normal recreational use of the river and jeopardize future public and private investment in river related amenities affecting the entire Upper Hudson region, and

WHEREAS, the mere possibility of a PCB dredge and landfill project adversely affects land values throughout the Upper Hudson and discourages private investment that might lead to creation of new jobs, and

WHEREAS, representatives of Washington County and many local governments have taken an active role in EPA's public meetings and have repeatedly asked EPA to evaluate the adverse impacts of a PCB landfill on the resources and economy of the county, and

WHEREAS, EPA has conducted no such evaluation and has made no commitment to conduct such an evaluation before any 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, and

WHEREAS, dredging contaminated sediments has been shown to be ineffective in improving environmental conditions elsewhere and there is no credible evidence that dredging sediments from the bottom of the Hudson river would significantly accelerate the improvements already taking place as a result of ongoing remediation work and the river's natural recovery processes, and

WHEREAS, the 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 and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Waterford finds there is no demonstrated environmental benefit to a dredge and landfill project on the Hudson River,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Waterford hereby expresses its opposition to Hudson River remediation, measures that involve dredge and landfill efforts of any kind and will transmit notice of such opposition in writing to all New York State Officials.

Offered by Councilman Doin
Seconded by Councilman Cuomo
Councilman Callaghan yes
Councilman Cuomo yes
Councilman Doin yes
Councilman Hayes yes
Supervisor Lawler yes

*This resolution was passed by the Waterford Town Board
June 6, 2000.*

Harold J. Hyman