



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12233-1010

THOMAS C. JORLING
COMMISSIONER

January 21, 1992

Dear Member of the Hudson River Oversight Committee:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to address your concerns regarding the Project Sponsor Group and the Hudson River PCB Reassessment Project. This letter is to provide clarification and a written response to the concerns which were raised through the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Reassessment's community interaction program. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), through our Division of Hazardous Waste Remediation, is actively involved with the project providing management assistance to EPA through a cooperative agreement.

As you are aware, the DEC's Project Sponsor Group is proceeding with the preparation of an application to utilize a location in Washington County known as Site 10 as a treatment and encapsulation site for contaminated materials to be dredged from the Hudson. No final commitment will be made to undertake the dredging and encapsulation project or any appropriate alternative until the U.S. EPA has completed its reassessment of its 1984 Record of Decision. In addition, the work of that reassessment will be incorporated into the Department's record of proceeding for the permit application processes and will be valuable in any decision on the applications at the State level. In the meantime, we will continue to share information and work closely with EPA in their reassessment studies. I believe that the Department's PCB Project activities as well as the schedule for carrying them out are quite compatible with that of the EPA reassessment process.

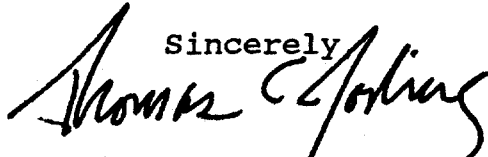
It should be noted that we do not consider our decision regarding dredging contaminated sediments from the Hudson River irrevocable. The Reassessment Project is designed to be a comprehensive review and reevaluation of the Hudson River PCB contamination problem. We would certainly reconsider our position on dredging provided another remedy can be sufficiently demonstrated to be capable of achieving equivalent protection of human health and the environment.

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We look forward to USEPA continuing to proceed in an open, objective, and timely manner to reach a sound environmental decision regarding the appropriate remedy to the Hudson River PCB problem. We will continue to work closely with them and encourage your continued participation in the Reassessment Project as well.

Sincerely



Thomas C. Jorling