

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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**TO:** Government Liaison Group Members

**FROM:** Darryl L. Decker, Chairman *DD*  
Government Liaison Group

**DATE:** November 20, 1991

As you are aware, Phase I of the Environmental Protection Agency's Hudson River PCB Reassessment Project is complete and the date for final submission of comments has passed. Several serious concerns have recently arisen which may cast a dark shadow on this project.

On October 16, the Steering Committee met in Saugerties. The agenda never got past the outrage of various Liaison Group members to the announcement by the Department of Environmental Conservation that they had just increased their contract with Malcolm Pernie to continue the development of a landfill for the disposal of PCB dredgings from the Hudson.

On October 22, the Oversight Committee met in Poughkeepsie and the DEC had a chance to bring in some bigger guns, yet questions were not answered satisfactorily at all. Our request for answers to a few basic questions has been ignored to date.

Our principal concern is the objectivity used by EPA. Most of the data is supplied by the DEC, the Agency which has already determined to explore dredging obviously since they have committed several millions of dollars in landfill development.

In addition, we requested that the DEC state whether it will abide by the EPA Record of Decision; after all it was DEC which requested the reassessment. They refuse to commit to an answer.

It appears that the DEC has already determined its course of action, regardless of the EPA's determination. This has frustrated several Liaison Group members who thought we were a constructive part of the process. We believe that we need to meet with Governor Cuomo, Commissioner Jorling and EPA Director Eristoff. Although we have requested such a meeting, we were advised that these gentlemen probably are too busy to meet with us.

In light of that, we are sponsoring a Press Conference on November 26th at the DeGroot farm on Route 4, three miles South of the Village of Fort Edward at 11 A.M. At that time, we hope to bring to light some serious concerns about this project and publicly request a meeting with the appropriate people at DEC and EPA.

It would be helpful if you could attend the Press Conference to lend your support. Thanks for your consideration.

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