

June 17, 1992

Ann Rychlensky  
USEPA Region II  
26 Federal Plaza  
New York, NY 10278

re: Hudson River PCB Reassessment

Dear Ann;

On behalf of many members of the Agricultural Liaison Committee, including both co-chairpeople, I would like to express our extreme disgust with your decision not to have a Phase 2 informational meeting held in the Upper Hudson region. None of the chairpeople from our committee will attend the meeting in Hudson. We feel it is very unreasonable to expect good community involvement from farmers this time of year with at least a TWO HOUR DRIVE to reach the meeting place. You claim to want to encourage community involvement and encouraged the development of these liaison groups. People in this Upper Hudson area responded. The membership of our liaison group remains 85% NORTH OF ALBANY. Over the past two years our group has remained very active and interested in the progress of this reassessment. I know many members of this committee would attend an informational meeting if it was more appropriately located.

Residents of the Lower Hudson certainly have a right to all of this same information but Upper Hudson residents who have been active right from the start of this process still deserve reasonable access. The bulk of the activity of Phase 2 will take place in the Upper Hudson and the bulk of the interest in this process has been from the Upper Hudson. The Hudson Valley is far too long to accomodate all residents fairly with only one meeting "in the middle." You must have at least 2, with the upper meeting North of Albany.

We have often been reminded what a large area the Hudson River Superfund Site covers. We are also often reminded how "important" community interaction is. Your excuse of budget limitations sounds a little weak. If you actually want good citizen input from informed people, then I suggest that your budget restrictions be overcome with a rethinking of priorities. Meetings must be closer to the most active participants for this community interaction program to be taken seriously, otherwise the "interaction" you receive will not be truly representative of community feelings.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Borden  
Chairman, Agricultural Liaison Com.

P.S.: Please send copies of this letter to all members of the Agricultural Liaison Comm. (others if you feel appropriate) along with minutes of the meeting held at Hudson on June 18th.

cc: Administrator Eristoff, Ms.Callahan, Liaison Group Leaders