



NOV 6 9 1989

Honorable James Courter
 House of Representatives
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Courter:

Your letter of October 7, 1989 addressed to Administrator William K. Reilly of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concerning the proposed cleanup of the Fried Industries, Inc. Superfund site located in East Brunswick, New Jersey has been referred to this office for reply.

Based on the test results gathered during the ongoing study of the Fried Industries site, some of the drums were found to pose a potential risk to area residents due to the flammability and/or corrosiveness of their contents. Because of this threat, EPA has begun a "removal action" which will result in the removal and off-site disposal of 800 drums containing chemicals. EPA took the first step towards securing the site by posting a 24-hour guard beginning on October 7, 1989.

EPA is presently soliciting bids from contractors to build the fence, which will provide the secure environment necessary for drum handling and removal activities. At this time, we expect the fence to be installed by November 30, 1989.

In accordance with the requirements of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the hazardous materials contained in the drums must be disposed of at a RCRA-permitted treatment/disposal facility. Before a RCRA disposal facility will accept drum wastes, the drum contents must be properly characterized. Sampling of drums can be completed within approximately four weeks after the fence's completion. Analysis of the samples is expected to take another four weeks; final drum removal and disposal should be completed within two months after receipt of the sampling results.

We fully agree with your concern that the residents of East Brunswick be informed of the conditions at the site which warrant a removal action. On October 23, 1989, at the request of East Brunswick Mayor Jack Sinagra, EPA representatives briefed him,

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the township administrator, and the township council at a meeting that was open to the public. EPA will also hold a public meeting prior to the actual removal of drums from the site. We will provide public notice of this meeting by announcement in local papers and by notices to persons on our mailing list. I have asked my staff to notify you when we schedule this meeting.

EPA conducted groundwater tests at both off-site residential wells and on-site monitoring wells as part of the ongoing remedial investigation and feasibility study. In December, EPA will be able to provide groundwater data obtained during the remedial investigation.

If you have any further questions or need additional information, please let me know or have your staff contact Jeane Rosianski of the Office of External Programs at (212) 264-7834.

Sincerely,

William J. Muszynski, P.E.
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Christopher J. Daggett, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

bcc: Alice Greene (A-101)

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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DUE 11-1-89

October 7, 1989

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The Honorable William Reilly
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Reilly:

It has come to my attention that the chemicals stored at the Fried Industries Inc. Superfund site on Fresh Ponds Road in East Brunswick are highly flammable and pose a dangerous threat to the residents of the area.

I am pleased that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has decided to clean up the Superfund site sooner than was planned, however, due to the seriousness of this problem and the potential risk to the residents of East Brunswick, I am requesting that the clean up take place immediately.

Second, I respectfully request that a hearing be held with officials from the EPA, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the East Brunswick Town Council, and residents in the area be held in the next two weeks. The residents of East Brunswick deserve the right to be informed of the potential danger of these chemicals at the Superfund site.

Third, due to the immediate danger posed by the presence of the flammable substances, I request that a fence be put up around the site starting this week, not next month as your agency has planned.

Fourth, I am also requesting that the DEP conduct tests of the ground water in the area to determine the presence of any contamination. I hope the EPA will assist the DEP in this task.

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MORRISTOWN, NJ

WASHINGTON, DC

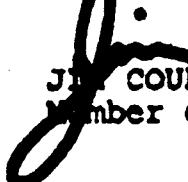
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I respectfully request your reply as soon as possible.
Thank you for your time and attention to this serious and urgent
matter.

Sincerely,


JIM COUNTER
Member of Congress

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