

28 Arlington Street, 2N
New Bedford, MA 02745
September 14, 1995

Photostimulated

13.1.20

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Mr. John DeVillars
Regional Administrator Superfund Records Center
U.S.E.P.A.
JFK Federal Bldg.
Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02203

SITE: NEW BEDFORD
BREAK: 13.1 RECEIVED
OTHER: 47446 SEP 19 1995

Dear Mr. DeVillars,

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Kindly permit me to introduce myself. My name is Alan Cass and I am President of Fishermen's Legal Action Committee, and a candidate for Ward 2 Council of New Bedford, MA.

We are greatly disturbed by the decision to place the bottom sediment from the proposed dredging of New Bedford Harbor in containment devices along the banks of the Acushnet River.

We are disturbed for several reasons:

Present cost of establishing the sites and construction of the devices.

Obvious health risk from seepage or leakage of the containment devices into the water table.

Lost use of inner harbor area for future recreation and development.

Future cost to monitor the containment areas.

Future clean up costs of the material after a thirty year monitor, when the containment devices will have to be relined or rehabilitated or the material eliminated at future tax payers expense.

The remediation of the first dredge site has been accomplished with storage of the material in the lagoons constructed on site at the foot of Sawyer Street in my ward of New Bedford. This site was to be used to eliminate the contaminant problem by burning, of which, the technology of that type elimination was not acceptable to the people of New Bedford.

Our group proposes the following recommendations:

1. Elimination of the stored material at the foot of Sawyer Street by advanced technology currently being tested to reclaim metals to neutral form and produce gas as a by-product.

2. Keep the technology at the foot of Sawyer Street to be utilized to eliminate the contaminate problem of future dredge

material from the harbor and other New Bedford sites until the problem in this area is eliminated.

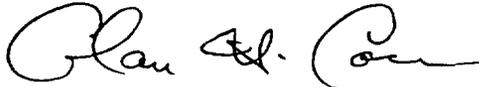
3. Return the site at the foot of Sawyer Street to its original condition.

Should present cost factors be the primary obstacle, then a financial re-evaluation, including the future costs must be done. The loss of recreation and development, cost of construction of the containment devices, monitoring of the devices, and the enormous cost to rehabilitate the devices after the thirty year period, places an unjust burden on our community's future generations.

We are convinced a compromise can be reached to eliminate the problems of PCB contamination in the New Bedford area without resorting to storage or incineration.

We thank you for your anticipated consideration of this grave matter, and await your response.

Very Truly Yours,



Alan H. Cass
President, FLAC

cc:

Hands Across The River
U.S. Representative Barney Frank