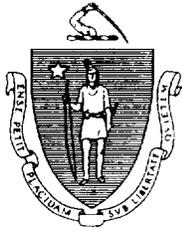


5-10-95



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

ROBERT M. KOCZERA
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*New Bedford Harbor
4.9*

House Chairman
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January 7, 1997

Mr. David Dickerson
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Agency
JFK Federal Building, HBO
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Mr. Dickerson,

I am writing with respect to the proposed cleanup plan for the upper and lower harbor areas of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. While I remain committed to the goal of identifying a technology to permanently treat PCB contaminated sediments and heavy metals, I join with other officials and many members of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Forum in offering qualified support for the EPA's proposal to store the contaminated sediment in Confined Disposal Facilities (CDF's).

Any record of decision should include a formal obligation upon the government to evaluate available technologies for the permanent treatment of these sediments prior to the placement of a permanent cap on the CDF's. The CDF's should be monitored regularly by your agency for an indefinite period, with an immediate plan of action to correct any problem arising from such a facility.

I also believe that the EPA should include the linkage of the proposed cleanup in the upper harbor with the Army Corps of Engineers dredging plan for the harbor. The navigational dredging plan also involves sediment with PCB deposits above federal action levels and would make available temporary cover material needed for the CDF's.

I expect the EPA will work with the Forum on design, monitoring and evaluation questions which will occur during this next phase of the harbor cleanup.

Sincerely,

ROBERT M. KOCZERA
Chairman
Committee on Commerce and Labor