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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4903

November 22, 2011

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

JUDICIARY

SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

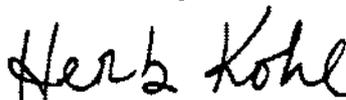
I am writing on behalf of state and local officials from Northeastern Wisconsin regarding EPA's plans for cleaning up the Menominee River Basin in Marinette, Wisconsin.

These representatives have requested that EPA schedule a public hearing in the Marinette area so that constituents may ask questions and examine the latest information that the agency is considering as it determines a cleanup plan for the Menominee River.

I am enclosing letters from the mayor of Marinette and the area's state legislators. I encourage you to give full consideration to these requests. Please respond to my office, as well as to these officials directly.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Herb Kohl
United States Senator

HK:nxb

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CITY OF MARINETTE

Mayor Robert M. Harbick

mayor@marinette.wi.us

November 8, 2011

Mr. Gary Cygan
Regional Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Stanton Street Facility Marinette, Wisconsin
(Menominee River)

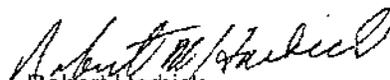
Dear Mr. Cygan:

I am writing to express my interest and concern regarding the current status of the cleanup of the Menominee River Basin Site in Marinette, Wisconsin. In my capacity as Mayor of the City of Marinette, I have been involved in monitoring the progress of the site investigation and other activities relating to the cleanup for a number of years.

It is my understanding that the Agency has been reviewing an additional proposed cleanup approach for this site proposed by Tyco and that EPA will inform Tyco of its final decision regarding the cleanup in the near future. In order to ensure that I can adequately fulfill my responsibilities to the citizens of this community, I would very much like the opportunity to hear from EPA about any new information it has received about the best way to clean up the site, for the community and the environment. To that end, I would like to invite you to meet with the members of the Common Council and myself at your earliest convenience. I am aware that you held a public meeting on this issue in 2008, however, given that EPA has been provided with additional information that may be important to our community, we would like to be sure to have the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the potential alternatives EPA is evaluating and any impacts they may have on our community. We would assume that we would also have the opportunity to provide input to the Agency before a final decision is made.

I appreciate your attention to my concerns and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Robert Harbick
Mayor

cc: Susan Hedman, Administrator, Region V
Jose G. Cisneros, Chief, Remediation and Reuse Branch
George Hamper, Remediation and Reuse Branch



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

November 10, 2011

Susan Hedman
Administrator, Region 5
United States Environmental Protection Agency
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Administrator Hedman:

As elected state officials serving the citizens of northeastern Wisconsin, including the city of Marinette, we write today with regards to the proposed cleanup of the Menominee River Basin.

The Menominee River Basin has played an instrumental role in our community, in both a commercial and recreational capacity. While we understand the need for a river clean-up, we share the concerns of many in the community over how that actual process takes place.

It is our understanding that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been reviewing additional remediation proposals and final approval is pending. We feel strongly that the EPA should fulfill its obligation to a thorough review process and ensure all stakeholders are properly informed about any additional information that may be taken under your consideration.

It is our hope that our constituents will have ample chance to be informed and provide feedback as to how the water clean-up proposals will impact them and our community as a whole. Therefore, we respectfully request that the EPA allow the public the opportunity to provide comments, ideally through a public hearing located in the Marinette area, on any and all of the proposed approaches prior to final approval of the plan.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. We would appreciate a response from your agency no later than November 16, 2011. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our offices.

Respectfully,

John Nygren
State Representative
89th Assembly District

Dave Hansen
State Senator
30th Senate District