

TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM

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December 11, 2019

Mr. Peter Lopez
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency – Region II
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Rolling Knolls Landfill Superfund Site, Township of Chatham, NJ

Dear Mr. Lopez:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Township of Chatham, located in Morris County, New Jersey. The Township is concerned about the evaluation of prospective remedies related to the Rolling Knolls Landfill. The landfill is located in the Township.

The Rolling Knolls Landfill commenced in the late 1930s and operated until December 31, 1968, when all landfill operations ceased. The Site (170 acres) is located entirely within the boundaries of the Township. A portion of the Landfill (approximately 30 acres) extends into the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The Landfill was added to the National Priorities List as a Superfund Site in September 2003.

Chatham Township has received and reviewed copies of various scientific documents and studies prepared by a group of Potentially Responsible Parties (“PRPs”) related to the Landfill. These studies include a Remedial Investigation (“RI”) and a draft Feasibility Study (“FS”) that is currently under review by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”). The Township has an abiding interest in a science-driven, risk-based remedy that meets the Township’s goals of human health and environmental risk reduction, with the least possible upset to the community, and especially those in the Britten Road/Green Village area, who will be most impacted by the remedy.

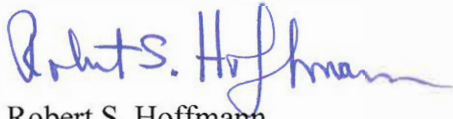
Based on the Township’s review of the most recent draft FS it appears that the landfill has been extensively studied, and that Alternative 3 most effectively advances the Township’s goals, and addresses the EPA regulatory requirements for protecting human health and the environment.

The Township firmly supports Alternative #3 as presented in the draft FS, as the best way to address the risks that the site presents, while minimizing the impact of the remedy on the community.

We are mindful that the Great Swamp is a precious resource within our community. The Township, nonetheless, believes that any restoration activities that the Department of the Interior is advocating on the portion of the site within the confines of the Great Swamp should not be conflated with CERCLA remediation requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of the Township's concerns. Please feel free to contact me or Special Counsel Carl R. Woodward, III with any question or comments you may have. Mr. Woodward can be reached at (973) 994-1700 or emailed at CWoodward@carellabyrne.com. My direct dial number is 973-635-3212 and email address is rhoffmann@chathamtownship-nj.gov.

Very truly yours,



Robert S. Hoffmann
Township Administrator

Walter Mugdan, USEPA – Deputy Regional Administrator
Stephanie Vaughn, USEPA Regional Project Manager
Juan Fajardo, Esq. USEPA – Assistant Regional Counsel
Catherine McCabe, NJDEP – Commissioner
Mark Pedersen, NJDEP – Assistant Commissioner
Richard Ricci, Esq. – Lowenstein Sandler
Albert Cruz, Esq. – Township Attorney
Carl R. Woodward, III – Township Special Counsel