



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

June 22, 2022

Honorable Mikie Sherrill
U.S. House of Representatives
1414 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Sherrill:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Rolling Knolls Landfill Superfund site located in Chatham, New Jersey. We appreciate your continuing involvement with this site and share your interest in bringing about meaningful progress towards a remediation plan.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been working and will continue to work with a number of stakeholders throughout the remedial investigation and development of a feasibility study to assess the nature and extent of contamination, and evaluate viable options for addressing contamination at the site. Recent samples taken show that there are PFAS compounds in groundwater in some areas of the site. EPA is analyzing this information, and depending on the final results further work may be required before the feasibility study can be finalized or a remedy proposed for public comment.

We have worked closely with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) for many years on the site. They have commented on documents that are part of the remedial investigation and feasibility study for the site, including documents developed by the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) performing work under EPA oversight, and by EPA itself. The FWS has a role as a trustee of natural resources and as the manager of Wilderness land that is part of the site; FWS is also a PRP. We have engaged with and will continue to engage with the FWS on matters related to the site. For instance, EPA and FWS are working cooperatively to overlay the recent sampling points collected by FWS onto a figure showing the related sampling points, so that we can compare the sampling data sets.

Community engagement is an essential component of the Superfund process, and we have held meetings and information sessions, including meeting with the Community Advisory Group (CAG) for the site. We also regularly update the EPA site webpage: www.epa.gov/superfund/rolling-knolls. In general, I want to point out that the community and stakeholders have a voice in this process, and that the process is not yet complete. EPA continues to evaluate all input received including that provided from the FWS regarding an additional alternative.

EPA has not expressed a preference among the cleanup alternatives under review, nor has the draft final version of the feasibility study report been prepared. EPA will identify its preferred alternative based on its review of this report, along with other information considered and made available to the public in the administrative record file.

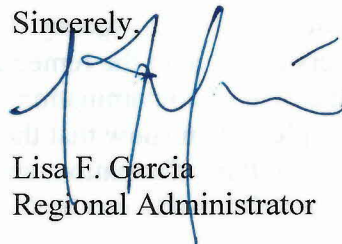
I am including an enclosure that addresses in detail the requests you made in your letter and lays out the Superfund process that has been followed at this site, as at all Superfund sites. I have also enclosed EPA's December 1, 2021, letter to the Chatham Township, which summarizes the discussion we had

with the Township regarding future use of the privately held portion of the site. Many of the concerns being voiced by various constituents and members of the public are based on draft documents that EPA had not issued to the public but were obtained through requests made under the Freedom of Information Act, and assumptions have been made regarding EPA's intended course of action.

EPA will choose a cleanup plan for the Rolling Knolls site that protects people's health, protects the environment and addresses the concerns of all stakeholders to the extent possible. We agree that community involvement is essential in successful remediation of Superfund sites and will continue to communicate updates on the site and post new information onto the site's webpage. We will be sure to follow up with your staff about the additional information you requested, including overlaying the FWS dataset with the Remedial Investigation data and obtaining visitation data from the Refuge as soon as we are able.

Thank you again for your continued involvement in this site and attention to the interests of the many stakeholders. If you have any additional questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me directly at (212) 637-5000, or have your staff contact Sabina Byck, Intergovernmental and Community Affairs Chief, at 212-637-3574 or byck.sabina@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa F. Garcia', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa F. Garcia
Regional Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Wendi Weber, US FWS
Scott Kahan, US FWS
Sally Rubin