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April 25, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable Judith A. Enck
Administrator, Region 2
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007-1866

Dear Administrators McCarthy and Enck:

I write to follow up on my letter dated February 29, 2016, which requested information regarding groundwater tests for the Ringwood Superfund Site located within the Fifth Congressional District of New Jersey. At the time of this writing, I have not received a response from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with the information I requested in my letter.

Due to the significant public concern regarding the recent discovery of 1,4-dioxane, I believe it is in the public's best interest to provide this information in a timely manner. To that end, I respectfully request a response to my inquiries no later than May 2, 2016.

Additionally, I write to request information regarding the EPA's decision to abandon the initial plan of full cleanup of the Ringwood Superfund Site and pursue a plan to place a barrier over the 166,000 tons of contaminated materials. The recent discovery of significant levels of 1,4-dioxane raises new concerns about the EPA's decision to cap the Ringwood Superfund Site.

According to the EPA, technology to test for 1,4-dioxane was not available until 2014. Armed with this new technology and new information, the decision to cap the site needs to be reevaluated.

All available information must be taken into account, including new discoveries of toxic substances, before a decision of such magnitude is made. The EPA must identify all potential

toxic substances that may be present at the Ringwood Superfund Site and ensure that a new cleanup plan rectifies the presence of all hazardous substances once and for all.

As you know, the Ringwood Superfund Site is a decades old and continued concern for New Jersey residents. The discovery of an additional toxic substance has increased public concern about the EPA's decision to approve the plan to cap the site. New Jersey residents deserve to know that a plan to mitigate hazardous substances in their communities will be successful and will permanently remove the public health threat posed to them.

To that end, please provide me with information specifically related to the following inquiries in regards to the Ringwood Superfund Site:

1. Is the EPA reevaluating the decision to cap the site instead of a full cleanup due to the discovery of a new toxic substance and the possibility that other toxic substances may be present?
2. What were the reasons behind approving the plan to cap the site despite the EPA initially supporting a full cleanup?
3. What are the criteria for pursuing the plan to cap the site and does the presence of a new toxic substance affect these criteria?

I look forward to your prompt response as well as continuing to work with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Scott Garrett
Member of Congress

Encl: February 29, 2016 letter to EPA requesting information regarding groundwater test results