



United States Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2

HUDSON RIVER FIELD OFFICE

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August 4, 2008

Dear Hudson River Resident,

The purpose of this letter is to provide residents along the Hudson River with an update on EPA's and General Electric's on-going investigation of PCBs in the Hudson River floodplain.

EPA's 2002 Record of Decision for the Hudson River cleanup states that concerns related to possible exposure of residents to PCBs in the Hudson River's floodplain will be further evaluated in coordination with New York State. Several soil sampling events in the floodplain of the River have taken place between 2002 and 2007, and results from those sampling events indicate that PCBs may be present in some areas that are routinely flooded by the river. This summer additional soil sampling is planned on a number of properties between Fort Edward and the Troy Dam to further evaluate the extent of PCBs in the floodplain. Owners of these properties will be contacted in the next few weeks to discuss the sampling program in more detail.

Potential health risks from exposure to PCBs in the floodplain soils depend on the PCB concentration and the extent to which people come in contact with the soil. Considering that the presence and concentration of PCBs at any given location may not be known without collecting and analyzing soil samples, residents should take simple precautions to minimize potential exposures when spending time in floodplain areas. Enclosed with this letter is a fact sheet that explains in detail where PCBs may be present in the floodplain and what steps residents can take to minimize potential exposures.

We appreciate your attention and cooperation as we prepare for floodplain sampling this year. We look forward to the culmination of this project, when the river's health will be greatly improved for the betterment of river residents, those who enjoy this historic waterway, and the environment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kristen Skopeck, Community Involvement Coordinator, at 518-747-4389.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David H. King".

David H. King, P.E., Director and Project Coordinator
USEPA Hudson River Field Office

cc: Kristen Skopeck – USEPA Region 2, HRFO
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