

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3226

July 20, 2011

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Commissioner Joe Martens  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-1011  
518-402-8545

Dear Mr. Martens,

I am writing this letter in regards to the current state of environmental contamination located in the Eighteen Mile Creek Corridor, particularly the Flintkote site in the Town of Lockport, New York. Currently, this site is listed as a Class 2 inactive hazardous waste disposal site by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation.

In tests conducted by your office, I understand, that soil around the site and surrounding areas have been found to contain high levels of metals, including lead, copper and mercury, as well as Polychlorinated Biphenyls, also known as PCB's. Polychlorinated Biphenyls are known to cause several hazardous health conditions in humans and wildlife, including possible damage to the liver, thyroid, stomach, and changes in the immune system. Wildlife living in the corridor have shown have high rates of deformities and tumors that may have resulted from this contamination. Additionally, it has been recommended that fish taken out of local streams not be ingested.

Not only do the levels of contamination in the Eighteen Mile Creek area pose an immediate health risk to my constituents, but they hinder the economic opportunity and development in the area. For far too long this problem has gone unchecked and it's time we begin an expeditious cleanup of this site.

The health and safety of my constituents is my top concern, so please know I am willing to do whatever I can to help resolve this problem.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office in regards to this matter.

Sincerely,



Kathleen C. Hochul  
Member of Congress