

February 5, 2009

Commissioner Gina McCarthy  
CT Department of Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06134

Acting Regional Administrator Ira Leighton  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 1  
1 Congress Street  
Suite 1100  
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Re: Raymark Superfund

Dear Commissioner McCarthy and Action Regional Administrator Leighton:

The Town of Stratford is committed to working with the DEP, EPA and Stratford's citizens and businesses to ensure the safest, expeditious and comprehensive cleanup of Raymark Waste in Town.

As you both know, the Town of Stratford participated fully in the Raymark Superfund Team (RST) meetings. As I, and other members of my administration, have previously discussed at the RST meetings, the Town of Stratford must have an active and meaningful role in any remediation of the former Raymark Industries site or areas affected by Raymark waste removed from any site. The Town of Stratford could and should have a prominent role in:

- Institutional Controls and Construction Management Practices
- Oversight of Remedy
- Owner/Developer Status of OU4
- Development Proposals of OU4
- Limited Tax Abatement
- Lead Screenings

The Town of Stratford is committed to ensuring that institutional controls and sound construction management practices that ensure the public's health and safety are in place and maintained.

In order for the remediation process to be transparent, allow the public to be educated and to foster confidence in the remediation process I support and recommend that a



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Stratford Environmental Cleanup website be made available to the public that allows real time monitoring and continuous updates on all activity.

I support the concept of a "design district" for the areas impacted by contaminated groundwater so that prospective homeowners, developers, etc. are made aware that sub-slab depressurization systems (SSDS) have been offered and installed in many (but not all) homes in the area known as OU2. I also recognize that another consideration to facilitating our goal of transparency, public education and confidence in the remediation process is to add information about SSDS on land records so that the information is preserved for generations to come.

As has been the case for the last thirteen years, the Town of Stratford will continue to provide oversight of remedy, certainly with respect to ensuring that the public health of the residents is protected. Through the Health Department, the Town will provide significant input into the creation and implementation for the Health and Safety Plan for the chosen remed(ies). Preliminarily, the Health Department will involve the RST members in reviewing air monitoring data from historical residential excavations as well as air monitoring data from excavation work performed at the former facility (OU1).

I recommend that the Town of Stratford own and use for municipal purpose the Raybestos Ballfield (OU4). This involves taking the property and currently the Town has commenced a foreclosure action against the current property owner for substantial arrears in taxes back taxes thus making Town ownership quite possible soon.

I wholeheartedly support engaging the public in the decisions for the subsequent development of OU4 and welcome EPA as a partner in facilitating the process. In fact, this public engagement must occur.

While Connecticut state law prevents us from forgiving tax bills, I would like to propose some form of limited tax abatement for those property owners located near areas where excavation and near consolidation of those properties

Our Health Department, under the direction of its Director, Lisa Pippa will continue to serve as a resource to all residents regarding the history of the project, work with EPA, DEP and the CT Department of Public Health to inform and engage residents in the public participation process. In addition, the Health Department will look at offering health screenings such as lead screenings for children in the area impacted by remediation activities.



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We look forward to our continued working relationship with both of your agencies in addressing the next phase of the Raymark clean-up project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this letter or if I could be of any assistance to you or your respective agencies on this most important issue to the 50,000 residents and 2,7000 businesses in the Town of Stratford.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.R. Miron", is written over the typed name.

James R. Miron  
Mayor

cc: Patrick Field, Consensus Building Institute  
Lisa Pippa, Director, Stratford Health Department  
Andrea Boissevain, Assistant Director, Stratford Health Department