# SDMS US EPA REGION V -1

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PAUL SIMON
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Superfund / General Correspondence
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Bill Child
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11/23/93

COMMITTEES:
LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES
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FOREIGN RELATIONS
BUDGET
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cc: Tom Walters

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1302

November 23, 1993

RECEIVED IN THE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
NOV 24 1993

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NOV 30 1993
BUREAU OF WATER

Mary Gade, Director
Illinois Environmental
Protection Agency
2200 Churchill Road
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Director Gade:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter and petition I received from Richard and Diane McDonnell of Cahokia, Illinois concerning contamination of Dead Creek in their community.

As their letter states, it is obvious that they are greatly concerned as it appears they should be. I would appreciate your providing my office in Springfield with a status report on Dead Creek and what EPA is doing to be of assistance.

As always, your time and attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

My best wishes.

Cordially,

Paul Simon

Paul Simon
U.S. Senator

PS/jd

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Joe

NOV 16 1993

Dear Senator Paul Simon,

This letter concerns the toxic waste dump that we live near on Judith Ln. and also runs through Walnut St. in Cahokia, Illinois called Dead Creek. In the late 1980's EPA found there to be 30 different chemicals in Dead Creek. The chemicals had been dumped there for years by chemical plants before laws were made by government on toxic chemical disposal.

So in the 1980's EPA put an eight foot high fence around part of Dead Creek which runs from Judith Lane to Jungel. They also blocked the creek so that it would not drain through to the other side of the street in to the creek going south.

Therefore, because of the unusual amount of rainfall we have had this year it has filled up. The eastern part of our street and Walnut St. has flooded twice this year. Our mayor ordered the flooded water from these two streets to be pumped into the creek that is already full and blocked. As a result, both times the water ran over the street at Judith Ln.

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It also ran over Queny Av. and got up to 2 ft. high.

We have asked the mayor (Mike King) not to pump the water in the blocked creek but he refuses to listen.

Since April of this year 1993 most of the residents on Judith Ave and Wolnut St. have been pumping water from our basements. It is nonstop pumping for some of us. Our electric bills are high because of the pumping. Some of us have major foundation damage from all of the water seeping in from the floor. For most of us we have never had water in our basements before this year. The water table level has been high in Cahokia but my husband and I were told by two contractors that the creek holding water is not helping our situation.

I have called EPA in Springfield and talked to a Stan Black (Public Relations) I asked him about EPA draining the creek, and he told me they could not do that because of the contamination.

Not only do we have a very bad drainage problem but there is a very

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strong chemical odor coming from the ditch, it is a mosquito haven, and there is always the fear of it backing up into our houses.

We also have concerns about our property value. Mr. Black from EPA told me if we put our house up for sale, we must tell people that are interested in buying, that we live by a toxic waste dump.

I doubt very seriously that we will be able to sell our.

Senator, EPA has tested the water in our basement twice this year and five other basements once.

We were told that our basement is not contaminated.

On one hand EPA is telling us we are in no health danger. And in the other they have their high fence up around the creek and tell us to warn prospective buyers of our property being close to a toxic waste dump.

We the people of Judith Lane and Walnut St. would hope that you can help us. This is a health and property issue.

Sincerely,

109 Judith Ln / Diane & Rick McDonnell

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|---|---|
| [illegible] | 105 JUDITH LN. |
| [illegible] | 113 Judith Ln. Cahokia, Il. |
| Charles McDonnell | 111 Judith Lane Cahokia Il. |
| [illegible] | 110 + 112 JUDITH LANE CAHOKIA, ILL |
| Wayne L. Woolf | 106 Judith LANE Cahokia Il |
| Brad Thomas | 113 1/2 Judith Ln. Cahokia Il |
| Janet [illegible] | 100 Judith Ln. Cahokia |
| William H. Settle | 102 Judith Ln. Cahokia Il |
| Hazel V. Settle | 102 Judith Ln. Cahokia |
| Gary Miller | 107 Judith Lane Cahokia Il |
| Wm F Schmadt | 104 Judith Ln. |
| Pauline Schmidt | 104 Judith Ln. |
| Mary Ellen Lindsey | 104 Walnut St. |
| Madine Cooper | 117 Judith Lane |
| Dorene Ross | 121 Judith Lane |
| Freda [illegible] | 116 Walnut |
| Lorraine Asher | 117 Walnut |
| Walter A Allen | 101 Walnut St |
| Theresa Allen | 101 Walnut St |
| Nancy Batson | 102 Walnut |
| Christopher Vanderer | 109 Walnut |
| Jan Manning | 115 Walnut |
| Minnie L. Adamtsky | 120 Judith Ln. |
| Edward [illegible] | 115 Walnut St. |
| [illegible] | 117 Walnut St |
| Harold R Clift | 112 WALNUT ST. |
| Edith Batson | 108 Walnut St. |
| Lloyd Wilkinson | 103 Walnut St. |
| Nancy Wilkinson | 103 Walnut St |
| [illegible] | 105 Walnut St |

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