1/28/14 Mtg w/ Baykeeper re: Soil Safe

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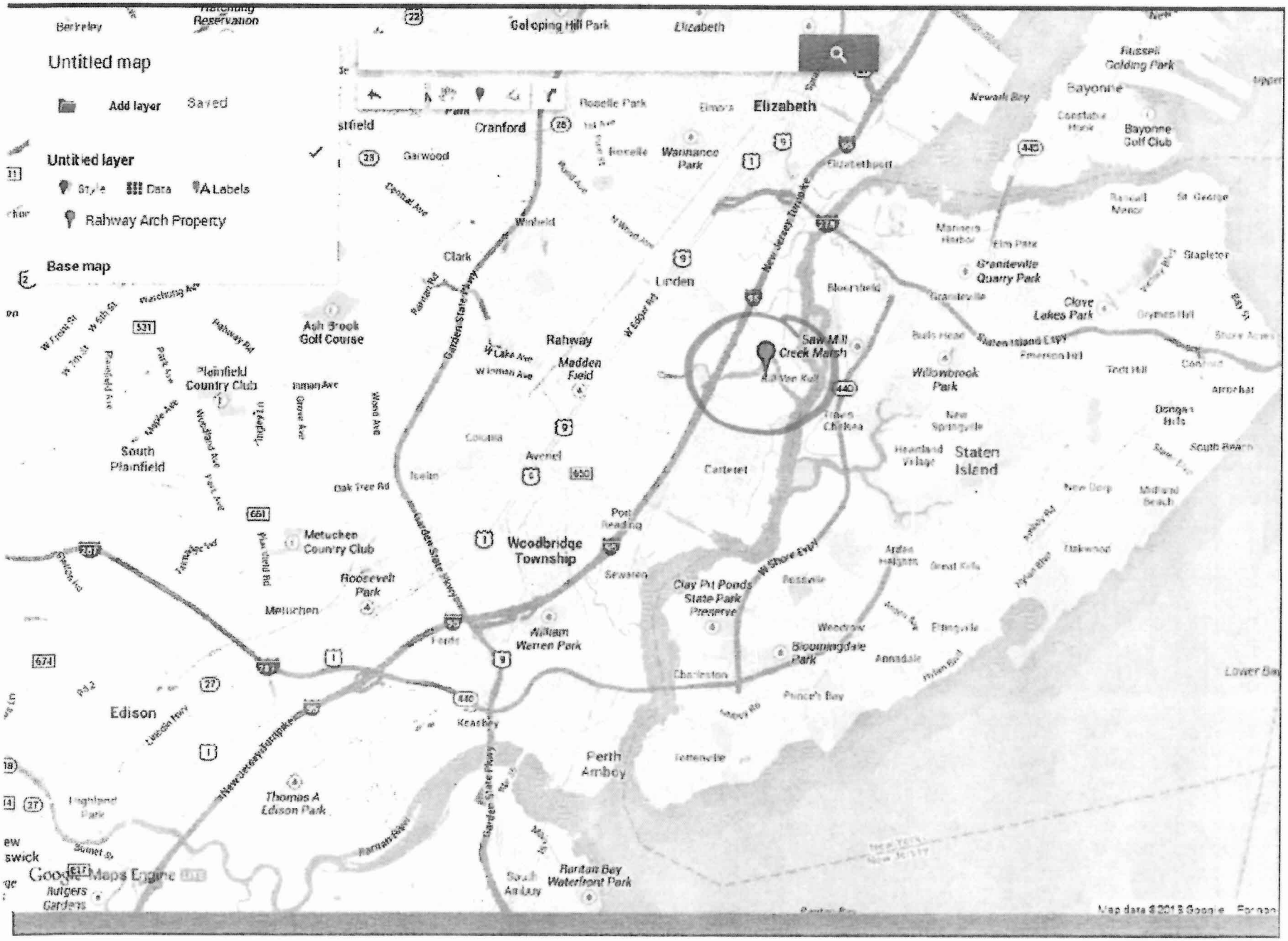
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Rahway Arch Property
Base map
Galloping Hill Park
Elizabeth
Russell Golding Park
Bayonne
Bayonne Golf Club
Newark Bay
Roselle Park
Cranford
Garwood
Wannance Park
Elizabeth
Elizabethport
Winfield
Clark
Linden
Rahway
Madden Field
Ash Brook Golf Course
Plainfield Country Club
South Plainfield
Garden State Pkwy
New Jersey Turnpike
Saw Mill Creek Marsh
Bloomfield
Grandeville
Grandeville Quarry Park
Clove Lakes Park
Willowbrook Park
Staten Island
Avenel
Carteret
Port Reading
Woodbridge Township
Metuchen Country Club
Roosevelt Park
Metuchen
William Warren Park
Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve
Bloomingdale Park
Edison
Keasbey
Perth Amboy
Thomas A Edison Park
Raritan Bay Waterfront Park
Rutgers Gardens
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# WHY WE OPPOSE THE PROJECT

- Soil Safe proposes to pile up to 29 feet of contaminated soil on top of sludge ponds and unreinforced dirt berms. Internal DEP engineer reviews of the project warn that the cap will likely collapse into the river and surrounding wetlands.

- DEP staff also question the logic of introducing new contaminants to the property as a way to "clean it up." Soil Safe claims the project needs to "remediated" but testing does not support claims that the site is heavily contaminated. Currently, there is a DEP-issued No Further Action letter for the property which says that is was sufficiently cleaned by previous owners.

- All DEP staff concerns about the project are being overridden by the NJDEP's top staff.

# Opposition Continued.....

- A standard cap to seal contamination is 2 feet. DEP reviews question why this site requires a cap up to 29 feet. (They originally proposed 40 feet.)
- The company has a history of violations at their other sites in New Jersey.
- There are 10 state threatened and endangered species on the property.
- The facility is permitted to accept up to 7000 tons per day, which would be 340 trucks. No truck route has been provided.
- The DEP application process has been unorthodox, allowing for repeated revisions and issuing conditional permits before the application was even complete.
- The project has numerous political connections (Senators Sweeney, Smith, and Lesniak). We fear Governor Christie is ignoring flooding and toxic pollution problems to make political allies happy.