PASSAIC RIVER
Community Advisory Group

FROM: Ana Baptista and Debbie Mans, Co-Chairs, Passaic River CAG

TO: Sophia Rini, USEPA

DATE: January 25, 2018

RE: CAG interaction on CPG proposal to conduct interim accelerated cleanup on the upper portion of the Passaic River

We are writing to coordinate upcoming events with the CAG to ensure that we are able to be fully responsive to discussions surrounding the CPG proposal to conduct interim accelerated cleanup on the upper portion of the Passaic River. Please see the following summary of our anticipated activities and our requests for EPA support in ensuring that we are able to have robust and meaningful conversations and provide meaningful community input.

Preparation for the February 8, 2018 CAG Meeting

- This will be our primary opportunity to discuss this issue and we plan to devote the entire meeting to this subject
- We would like to prepare and distribute a meeting agenda and background summary to CAG members no later than Thursday February 1
- In order to prepare for this meeting and to provide sufficient context for our members, we would appreciate receiving preliminary materials to help describe the CPG proposal no later than January 30
- In the absence of any detailed information, we do have a number of key questions that we want to make sure are addressed in the presentations and dialogue on February 8, to include the following:
    - What is the full scope of the proposed actions in the CPG proposal?
    - What is the full rationale behind the proposed actions?
    - How do the proposed actions coordinate with the existing cleanup on the lower 8 miles? Would there be increased efficiencies and/or cost savings?
    - How does available data support this approach?
    - Does data show that the proposed actions would significantly protect the cap on the lower 8 miles from recontamination?
    - How does this proposal differ from the CPG "Sustainable Remedy" approach that was discussed at the December 2012 CAG meeting?
    - How does this approach align with the results of the Second Supplemental Sampling Program (SSP2) that was presented to the CAG in January 2015 which showed no significant hot spots of contamination?

- How would the proposed actions tie into the overall remedy of the full 17 miles?
- What will be done in the future to assess the effectiveness of the implemented actions and evaluate the need for additional actions to ensure long-term protection of human health and the environment?

Preparation of Recommendations to EPA

- The CAG intends to prepare detailed comments and recommendations to EPA on the CPG proposal
- The CAG will be supported by the CAG facilitator and TAG in preparing these comments
- Please let us know the date by which these comments will be required to EPA

Preparation of Comments for the March 1 CSTAG Meeting

- The CAG intends to prepare comments to the CSTAG
- The CAG will be supported by the CAG facilitator and TAG in preparing these comments
- The CSTAG requires these comments two weeks in advance, however this may not provide enough time to develop meaningful comments in the timeframe following the February 8 CAG meeting
- Please let us know if any extension will be possible and the latest date that these comments would be accepted

March 1, 2018 CSTAG Meeting

- Ana, Debbie, and Doug were included in the invitation from CSTAG and all plan to attend the meeting.

March 8, 2018 CAG Meeting

- We would like to use this meeting to follow up on the issues raised by the CAG in its comments to EPA and the CSTAG
- If this meeting is too soon for meaningful feedback from EPA to the CAG, we should discuss whether a rescheduling is warranted or if other cleanup topics are sufficient to conduct this meeting

Given the number of activities coming up, we would like to schedule a planning call on January 29 or 30 for all of us to discuss the many upcoming activities.