UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

December 1, 2021

Robert S. Hoffmann, Administrator
Township of Chatham
58 Meyersville Road
Chatham, New Jersey 07928

Dear Mr. Hoffmann:

With respect to the October 21, 2021 site visit and meeting regarding the Rolling Knolls Landfill Superfund Site (Site), I would like to thank you, Mayor Stacey Ewald, Deputy Mayor Tracy Abbott and Carl Woodward, Esq., who represents the Township on this matter, for meeting with representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 2, to discuss the Site and, importantly, the reasonably anticipated future land use for the Site.

As you know, the Miele Trust owns virtually all of the private portion of the Site, approximately 135-acres of land, with the United States owning approximately 35-acres of landfill property that is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Our meeting focused on the portion of the Site owned by the Miele Trust. We understand that, while Chatham Township is in favor of the feasibility study process moving forward towards completion, the Township would welcome the construction of a trail leading from the Miele Trust property to the "wilderness area" that is managed by Fish and Wildlife and that is part of the Site. EPA also understands that Chatham Township would like a portion of the Miele Trust property to be available for potential development of an electric generation project such as a solar farm. Lastly, the Township also expressed a desire for a portion of the Miele Trust property to be made available for passive recreation use.

As we stated during the meeting, EPA must select a remedy that is consistent with the "Superfund law" (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) and the National Contingency Plan. In the site investigation and remedy selection process, EPA evaluates and takes into account the reasonably anticipated future land use. While EPA may select a remedy that incorporates limitations on future use, we would not have authority to tell a landowner that owns property within or adjacent to a Superfund site how to develop its property, as long as the development is compatible with the selected remedy. To the extent that Chatham Township has a specific vision with respect to Site property, we encourage the Township to discuss its desired uses for the Site with representatives of the Miele Trust as well as other stakeholders such as the three potentially responsible parties performing the remedial investigation and feasibility study for the Site under EPA oversight, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. There may be opportunities to implement appropriate future use projects outside of the remedy selection process.

EPA values Chatham Township's input with respect to the Site and, as always, you should feel free to contact us with any concerns you may have or to seek information of clarification on any matter concerning the Site.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Vaughn

Stephanie Vaughn, Chief
Mega Projects Section
EPA Region 2 Superfund Program