Message

From: Berkoff, Michael [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F347C01A92D7424FA840C24F6B7FBF6B-MBERKOFF]
Sent: 8/7/2014 10:12:08 PM
To: Goldfarb, Eugene [egoldf1@uic.edu]
CC: beth.grigsby@cardno.com; Kaiser, Steven [kaiser.steven@epa.gov]; Clements, Mindy [clements.mindy@epa.gov]; Van Der Kloot, James [vanderkloot.james@epa.gov]; Frey, Rebecca [frey.rebecca@epa.gov]; Toney, Marcy [toney.marcy@epa.gov]; Potts, Danielle [Potts.Danielle@epa.gov]; Winna Guzman [WGuzman@eastchicago.com]
Subject: RE: E Chicago Demolition of SF homes at Superfund site

Eugene,
We would be happy to meet with you. Based upon your email, we have a number of things to discuss. Would you be available Tuesday or Wednesday of next week? Mindy, Steve, and Jim please also let me know if you are available either of those days.
Michael

-----Original Message-----
From: Goldfarb, Eugene [mailto:egoldf1@uic.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 2:13 PM
To: Berkoff, Michael
Cc: beth.grigsby@cardno.com
Subject: E Chicago Demolition of SF homes at Superfund site

Is there any time next week (or Friday) when it'd be convenient to sit down & talk?

Looking forward to working with you
eg

Eugene Goldfarb, MUP, JD
Adjunct Asst Professor
Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences School of Public Health University of Illinois at Chicago
Phone: 847-831-9142, cell 847-962-1572
Fax: 951-281-4920

---------- Original Message ----------
Subject: RE: E Chicago Superfund Demolition
From: "Winna Guzman" <WGuzman@eastchicago.com>
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 1:03 pm
To: "Goldfarb, Eugene" <egoldf1@uic.edu>

Hi Eugene,

Thank you again! I have forwarded an email to M.Berkoff and advised him that you will be working with the City and that you would be contacting him in the near future.

Winna G. Guzman, Building Commissioner
East Chicago Building Department
4444 Railroad Avenue
East Chicago, IN 46312
(219) 391-8294~Fax: 391-7013

-----Original Message-----
From: Goldfarb, Eugene [mailto:egoldf1@uic.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 12:07 PM
To: Winna Guzman; Maria C. Becerra
Cc: beth.grigsby@cardno.com; baleven@ksu.edu
Subject: E Chicago Superfund Demolition

Thanks again for showing me around and setting up a meeting with the Mayor and City Attorney yesterday. I'm looking forward to working on this project!!

My understanding is that we're trying to coordinate the USEPA Superfund cleanup with the demolition of 27 properties (single family homes) funded through the State's hardest hit program.
http://www.877gethope.org/blight

The Mayor understands that we're all dealing with the same taxpayers & it doesn't make sense to remove the soil & replace with fill, & then go back & demolish the structures later - that the government should do everything as part of one coordinated operation in order to reduce overall time and expenses, as well

as disruption to the community. The hope is that the City/State demolition funding can be mixed with the USEPA cleanup funding to provide the most efficient use of public money.

When I look at USEPA's administrative record on the cleanup I see the remedial action objectives were supposed to include citizen participation and "anticipate future land use scenarios" but I didn't see any recognition of the deleterious effect designation and the prolonged cleanup have had on the neighborhood - the home abandonment and the spread of slum & blight, nor any indication that USEPA is willing to recognize that these factors are part of the overall problem (& solution). I think there is some authority that this should take place.

40 CFR 300.430 (a)(1)(ii)(C) provides that Site-specific data needs, the evaluation of alternatives, and the documentation of the selected remedy ***should reflect the scope and complexity of the site problems being addressed.***

and 300.430 (c) (2)(ii)(A) provides that EPA should

Ensure the public appropriate opportunities for involvement in a wide variety of site-related decisions, including site analysis and characterization, alternatives analysis, and selection of remedy;

The Mayor said that he's looking forward to a full blown meeting with him, the City Attorney & USEPA but I'd like to start discussions with USEPA and hopefully work something out before we bring the Mayor in. Have you had a chance to contact Mike Berkoff so that he'll be expecting my call/email?

On my end Beth Grigsby of Cardno ATC is on board but we're waiting to hear from TAB to see if we can do this under TAB or not. Given the Mayor's desire to move as quickly as possible I've started to work on this even before we work that out.

All the best
eg

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