Message

From: Saric, James [saric.james@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/9/2013 7:19:43 PM
To: Berkoff, Michael [berkoff.michael@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

Michael,

I just responded to you regarding this. I think it may be better to have this on Wednesday 4/17....if you are going to be in the office. Anne Rowan isn't available on Monday and it would be great to have her there. Also, it actually makes more sense to have our meeting after we have the video conference with the mayor. This way we will know if we are going to have a follow up meeting with the city commissioners and we can tell public affairs about the mayors meeting. Plus, we will be able to tell Joan and Rick we have a communications strategy meeting scheduled.

Jim

From: Berkoff, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 12:08 PM
To: Gawlinski, Denise; Saric, James; Arcaute, Francisco; DeBlasio, Don
Cc: Carlson, Janet; Beckmann, Ronna Erin; Rowan, Anne; Frey, Rebecca
Subject: RE: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

All,
I could meet that Monday morning.

From: Gawlinski, Denise
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 11:52 AM
To: Saric, James; Arcaute, Francisco; DeBlasio, Don; Berkoff, Michael
Cc: Carlson, Janet; Beckmann, Ronna Erin; Rowan, Anne
Subject: RE: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

Hey all:

I'm available to meet next Monday (except between 10:30 – noon) or any time on Wednesday.

FYI – Jim and I held a call last month with staff from Sen. Stabenow's office, who remain very interested in the Allied site. We can also expect to hear from Sen. Levin and Rep. Upton (and others?) as the proposed plan is released and the public hearing nears.

Denise

Denise Gawlinski Fortin
Congressional Liaison
Office of Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
312-886-9859

From: Saric, James
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 10:35 AM
To: Arcaute, Francisco; DeBlasio, Don; Rowan, Anne; Gawlinski, Denise
Cc: Berkoff, Michael; Carlson, Janet
Subject: RE: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

Francisco,

We do not have any meeting dates set. The Feasibility Study document is going to be released to the public by the end of April/early May and the Proposed Plan document will not be released to the public until sometime in May. So, the meeting will most likely not occur until late May or sometime in June. However, we should discuss how to best continue public interaction between now and then, as well as how to conduct the public meeting, so that the formal public hearing can occur. I am concerned that a public strategy may be to ultimately disrupt the public meeting so that the hearing cannot take place.

Jim

From: Arcaute, Francisco
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 10:26 AM
To: Saric, James; DeBlasio, Don; Rowan, Anne; Gawlinski, Denise
Cc: Berkoff, Michael; Carlson, Janet
Subject: RE: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

Please share the proposed meeting dates and draft agenda so we can start hammering out messages.

Thanks

Francisco Arcaute
US EPA Press Office
312 886 7613

From: Saric, James
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 10:23 AM
To: DeBlasio, Don; Arcaute, Francisco; Rowan, Anne; Gawlinski, Denise
Cc: Berkoff, Michael; Carlson, Janet
Subject: FW: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

Don and Francisco,

Below is a Superfund weekly report that was submitted to Rick Karl regarding the Allied Landfill at the Kalamazoo River Superfund site. We are planning on having a public meeting proposing a remedy (and formal public hearing) for the landfill sometime in May or June. However, as you'll see from the press information below, this is a pretty contentious issue with the community. I anticipate further press and congressional interest, as well as several controls.

I think it would make sense to get everyone together to develop a media/communication strategy to address this, as well as get everyone up-to-speed on this topic.

If we could get together sometime Monday or Wednesday of next week that would be great. Please let Michael and I know your availability.

Thanks
Jim Saric
6-0992

From: Frey, Rebecca
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 9:38 AM
To: Berkoff, Michael; Saric, James; Carlson, Janet
Subject: FW: RRBs weekly - Allied hot issue

FYI,

Here's the version of the Allied hot issue write-up that Joan forwarded to the SFD front office. She added more info about our meeting with the mayor, among other changes.
-Becky

Remedial Response Branch 1 & 2 Weekly Report for the Week Ending April 5, 2013

Hot Issue

Public Opposition Mounts to EPA Proposed PCB-Containment Cleanup Plan for Allied Landfill, Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Site, Michigan

Press Interest/Coverage: Fox 17, Kalamazoo Gazette/Mlive Kalamazoo, Michigan Public Radio, WWMT NewsChannel 3, WKZO

The Kalamazoo River Cleanup Coalition, a local grass-roots organization, held a meeting in Kalamazoo on April 2, 2013 to develop strategies to oppose EPA's likely proposal to leave PCB waste in place at the Allied Landfill. According to local news reports, the organizing meeting drew more than 100 people and follow-up organizing meetings are planned. EPA met with Kalamazoo Mayor Bobby Hopewell on March 12, 2013 to hear the Mayor's perspective on the waste-in-place alternative and the other cleanup alternatives under consideration. The Mayor made clear his preference that all PCB-waste be removed, however, did indicate interest in a PCB-containment option that allowed for tens of acres of land around the landfill to be restored for commercial or recreational development. On March 26, 2013 City staff presented information about the alternatives to the City Commissioners in an open meeting and reportedly asked for guidance and feedback on how to proceed. The Kalamazoo River Cleanup Coalition then scheduled the April 2 strategy meeting with the goal of pressuring EPA to remove all the PCB waste from the landfill.

Contact: Michael Berkoff, Remedial Project Manager, (312) 353-8983

Press Interest Detail:

April 3: http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/04/more_than_100_people_organize.html

April 2:

http://fox17online.com/news/stories/toxic-waste-site-in-kalamazoo-epa-proposes-to-cap-opposed-to-clean-it/#axzz2PRNdcMd4

http://fox17online.com/2013/04/02/community-hopes-epa-cleans-up-the-toxic-waste-site-in-kalamazoo-instead-of-capping-it/#axzz2PRNdcMd4

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/04/strategic_meeting_to_oppose_ep.html

http://wwmt.com/news/features/featured/stories/meeting-over-allied-paper-waste-site-320.shtml

April 1:

http://www.michiganradio.org/post/kalamazoo-leaders-unhappy-epa-plan-clean-toxic-chemicals-old-paper-mills

March 29:

http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/03/environmental_protection_agenc.html

March 27:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/03/allied_paper_superfund_site.html

March 26:

http://wkzo.com/news/articles/2013/mar/27/exclusive-video-kalamazoo-city-commission-holds-special-meeting-on-allied-paper-dump-site/

March 25:

http://wkzo.com/news/articles/2013/mar/25/environmental-protection-agency-proposing-to-keep-pcbs-in-place-at-allied-paper-dump/
http://wincountry.com/news/articles/2013/mar/25/special-meeting-of-kalamazoo-city-commissioners-to-get-an-update-on-epa-cleanup-of-allied-paper-site/