SEMS DocID 2339929

ORIGINAL (Red)

(b) (6)
Phoenixville, PA 19460
March 11, 1991

MAR 1 2 1991

Senator Arlen Specter
United States Senate
9400 Federal Building
600 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Senator Specter,

I am writing to request your assistance in persuading the Army Corps of Engineers to continue their investigation into possible contamination at the site of the former Valley Forge General Hospital in Chester County, PA until definitive conclusions can be reached on the risk to humans and the environment. A very preliminary investigation was performed by the IT Corporation which indicates the presence of nine compounds above the EPA proposed corrective action levels.

Attached for your review are copies of my letters to the Army Corps of Engineers, the EPA and the PA DER with my comments, questions and concerns on the work performed to date. The letter to the Army Corps consists of a 2 page summary of my findings which I presented to them at the February 19, 1991 public meeting held by the Corps and seven pages of supporting details.

The occurrence of several cases of Hodgkin's Disease from past residents of (b) (6), bordering the hospital property, is very unsettling to the community. Although the Chester County Health Department spokesman, Dr. Maher, said that, statistically, there is not a higher number of cases in Chester county than is expected, there has been no published report of their findings. Furthermore, the statistical approach he uses leaves many people dissatisfied. I believe there are six reported cases of Hodgkin's Disease from a small group of homes that border the property. Even if there is, in fact, no "imminent danger" now, there may have been a danger in the past or there may be a long-term danger now due to contamination from past activities at the site.

I urge you to contact the appropriate parties, the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. EPA and the PA DER on the behalf of the residents of this community to ensure that the Valley Forge General Hospital site investigation be completed. Thank you for your continued assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

ORIGINAL
(Red)

(b) (6) [redacted]
Phoenixville, PA 19460
March 11, 1991

Mr. Rick Wilson, Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
215th North 17th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4978

Dear Mr. Wilson,

Attached is an outline of detailed comments, questions and concerns that are the basis for my statement made at the Army Corps of Engineers' February 19, 1991 public meeting.

I understand from your remarks at the meeting that you will review these comments for incorporation into your recommendations, and that this entire letter will also be included in your final report recommending further study of this site. I thank you again for your cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your feedback on my attached comments and questions.

(b) (6)

cc: Senator E. Baker, G. Bonner (PA DER), L. Cunningham (U.S. EPA)
I. Ewald, Representative J. Heinz, T. Ryan,
Representative R. Schulze, Senator A. Specter
Representative P. Vroon