

J.M.



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

31 E. Butler Ave. • Ambler, Pa. 19002 • 215-646-1000

Mayor
William G. Young, Jr.
President
Bonnie Kroll
Manager
Edward J. Helmer

March 9, 1984

Mr. Bruce Potoka
On Scene Coordinator
Environmental Protection Agency
6th & Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Bruce:

The Borough of Ambler would like to formally request that the Environmental Protection Agency award it a grant to fulfill the requirements of the community participation efforts in Super Fund.

As you know, the Community Response Plan for each EPA Super Fund project is to be site specific. In this case, EPA is dealing with a potentially large population at risk, given the uncertainties over the windborn movement of asbestos fibers.

We believe that the Borough of Ambler can effectively utilize outside resources to help EPA and Nicolet develop proper sampling techniques and to properly analyze alternative methods of solving this asbestos contamination problem.

In Ambler, EPA is dealing with a wide variety of people having health concerns that have not been adequately addressed. These unanswered concerns appear likely to lead to economic dislocations, not only in the area immediately surrounding the piles but in the municipalities bordering the site as questions are raised about the advisability of living anywhere around Ambler.

We believe that the health issues have not been fully proven at this point in time but that the health concerns are certainly valid and that there is an indication of risk for the population here. Without some independent expertise that the people in the area can rely on, those concerns may never be satisfied - even though a "solution" is reached with Nicolet.

The Borough would like to request an expedited consideration of our grant request in order that we can be properly involved in the proposed March 26th court hearing. If the grant request is approved, we would propose setting up a multi-jurisdictional task force that would act as a coordinating body for the four municipalities

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EPA

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involved. We would be more than willing to work with the Environmental Protection Agency to set up a community response plan that addresses your statutory requirements as well as the needs of the citizens of the area for independent analysis and verification of the problem and of the solution.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Heibel
Borough Manager

EJH:jh

- c/c - Joe Melvin-EPA
- Bucky Walters
- Center for Disease Control
- Thomas Eichler-EPA
- John Gaffney, Esq.
- Marc Gold, Esq.
- Senator Heinz
- Senator Specter
- Representative Coughlin
- Susan Badger-Upper Dublin Twp.
- Phyllis Lieberman-Whitpain Twp.
- Larry Gregan-Whitemarsh Twp.

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