

December 7, 2011

Ms. Susan M. Curry
Ambler Borough Environmental Advisory Council
316 Edgewood Dr
Ambler, PA 19002-4305

Dear Ms. Curry,

As I continue working to address the needs of American families and businesses at home across the 13th Congressional District, it is important that I hear your views and concerns. While many of you continue to face difficult decisions and may feel like Washington isn't listening, I want you to know that I am always taking your views into consideration. Together, we can make the right decisions to revitalize our economy by strengthening our small businesses and enabling them to create good paying jobs in communities across the country. I appreciate you taking the time to contact my office and I am wanted to address your concerns regarding the ongoing clean-up work at the BoRit Superfund site in Ambler.

For the last several years, I have both written to and met with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials supporting the listing of the site on the National Priorities list and urging the EPA to communicate with the public about this site. My primary concern is to ensure the health and safety of the residents of Ambler and other communities in my district, and I will continue to work alongside local residents to ensure that clean-up of this site is done properly.

As of late 2011, both the long-term EPA remediation and removal effort and the initiative to stabilize the area's vegetation and grow new green space are proceeding according to plan. The Pennsylvania Department of Health and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry are working together to determine the potential public health effects associated with any exposures to contaminants at the BoRit site. Their research found that residents in Ambler are not currently being exposed to levels of asbestos at a level of health concern, but past exposures were unknown. A 2011 cancer incidence rate in the 19002 Zip code was found to be lower than the overall rate for Pennsylvania, but the rate of mesothelioma was 3.1 times higher than expected, which is believed to be related to past asbestos exposure. Please rest assured that I am closely following the research conducted with regard to the health of local citizens.

EPA has developed a website so that residents can follow the plans and implementation for site remediation. Please continue to check www.epaosc.org/BoRit for updates on the site and for information about any future public meetings.

Again, thank you for contacting me concerning the remediation of the BoRit Superfund site. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me in the future for more information or if I can help in any way. I will continue to work on your behalf to ensure the federal government is fiscally responsible, accountable, and responsive to my constituents.

Sincerely,



Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz