



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

**AUG 15 2008**

Representative Anthony D. Weiner  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1122 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Weiner:

Thank you for your letter of July 14, 2008, addressed to Stephen Johnson, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which has been forwarded to me for reply. You requested that the EPA conduct preliminary testing of several properties in the vicinity of the Newtown Creek, specifically the Phelps Dodge, BCF Oil, Quanta Resources and National Grid sites under our authority pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

As discussed in your letter, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has investigated a number of sites in this area, including those named above, that are potentially contributing to the contamination in Newtown Creek. The work conducted by NYSDEC is part of the process to remedy the complex environmental problems resulting from decades of industrial activities in this area. As you know, a major impact on Newtown Creek is associated with oil releases that are being addressed through state enforcement and oversight of cleanup efforts conducted by private parties. EPA continues to support these efforts by the NYSDEC.

To address your concerns regarding testing of the abovementioned properties, and to define the nature and extent further of the hazardous substances that may be present, in cooperation with NYSDEC, EPA will review existing information from ongoing and past environmental investigations. From the information gathered in this review, EPA will identify any data gaps that may exist and will subsequently develop a sampling plan to address them. We anticipate that this effort will take approximately six months to complete. Once the data are collected, EPA will evaluate what additional actions, if any, may be warranted in accordance with CERCLA.

If you have further questions, please let me know or your staff may contact Peter B. Brandt, Chief for Intergovernmental & Community Affairs at 212-637-3657.

Sincerely,

  
Alan J. Steinberg  
Regional Administrator

cc: Honorable Pete Grannis, Commissioner  
New York State Dept of Environmental Conservation



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

**AUG 15 2008**

Representative Nydia M. Velazquez  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2241 Rayburn Office Building House  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Velazquez:

Thank you for your letter of July 14, 2008, addressed to Stephen Johnson, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which has been forwarded to me for reply. You requested that the EPA conduct preliminary testing of several properties in the vicinity of the Newtown Creek, specifically the Phelps Dodge, BCF Oil, Quanta Resources and National Grid sites under our authority pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

As discussed in your letter, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has investigated a number of sites in this area, including those named above, that are potentially contributing to the contamination in Newtown Creek. The work conducted by NYSDEC is part of the process to remedy the complex environmental problems resulting from decades of industrial activities in this area. As you know, a major impact on Newtown Creek is associated with oil releases that are being addressed through state enforcement and oversight of cleanup efforts conducted by private parties. EPA continues to support these efforts by the NYSDEC.

To address your concerns regarding testing of the abovementioned properties, and to define the nature and extent further of the hazardous substances that may be present, in cooperation with NYSDEC, EPA will review existing information from ongoing and past environmental investigations. From the information gathered in this review, EPA will identify any data gaps that may exist and will subsequently develop a sampling plan to address them. We anticipate that this effort will take approximately six months to complete. Once the data are collected, EPA will evaluate what additional actions, if any, may be warranted in accordance with CERCLA.

If you have further questions, please let me know or your staff may contact Peter B. Brandt, Chief for Intergovernmental & Community Affairs at 212-637-3657.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan J. Steinberg".

Alan J. Steinberg  
Regional Administrator

cc: Honorable Pete Grannis, Commissioner  
New York State Dept of Environmental Conservation



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

AUG 15 2008

Representative Hilda L. Solis  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1725 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Solis:

Thank you for your letter of July 14, 2008, addressed to Stephen Johnson, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which has been forwarded to me for reply. You requested that the EPA conduct preliminary testing of several properties in the vicinity of the Newtown Creek, specifically the Phelps Dodge, BCF Oil, Quanta Resources and National Grid sites under our authority pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

As discussed in your letter, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has investigated a number of sites in this area, including those named above, that are potentially contributing to the contamination in Newtown Creek. The work conducted by NYSDEC is part of the process to remedy the complex environmental problems resulting from decades of industrial activities in this area. As you know, a major impact on Newtown Creek is associated with oil releases that are being addressed through state enforcement and oversight of cleanup efforts conducted by private parties. EPA continues to support these efforts by the NYSDEC.

To address your concerns regarding testing of the abovementioned properties, and to define the nature and extent further of the hazardous substances that may be present, in cooperation with NYSDEC, EPA will review existing information from ongoing and past environmental investigations. From the information gathered in this review, EPA will identify any data gaps that may exist and will subsequently develop a sampling plan to address them. We anticipate that this effort will take approximately six months to complete. Once the data are collected, EPA will evaluate what additional actions, if any, may be warranted in accordance with CERCLA.

If you have further questions, please let me know or your staff may contact Peter B. Brandt, Chief for Intergovernmental & Community Affairs at 212-637-3657.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan J. Steinberg".

Alan J. Steinberg  
Regional Administrator

cc: Honorable Pete Grannis, Commissioner  
New York State Dept of Environmental Conservation



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

**AUG 15 2008**

Representative Gene Green  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2335 Rayburn Office Building House  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Green:

Thank you for your letter of July 14, 2008, addressed to Stephen Johnson, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which has been forwarded to me for reply. You requested that the EPA conduct preliminary testing of several properties in the vicinity of the Newtown Creek, specifically the Phelps Dodge, BCF Oil, Quanta Resources and National Grid sites under our authority pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

As discussed in your letter, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has investigated a number of sites in this area, including those named above, that are potentially contributing to the contamination in Newtown Creek. The work conducted by NYSDEC is part of the process to remedy the complex environmental problems resulting from decades of industrial activities in this area. As you know, a major impact on Newtown Creek is associated with oil releases that are being addressed through state enforcement and oversight of cleanup efforts conducted by private parties. EPA continues to support these efforts by the NYSDEC.

To address your concerns regarding testing of the abovementioned properties, and to define the nature and extent further of the hazardous substances that may be present, in cooperation with NYSDEC, EPA will review existing information from ongoing and past environmental investigations. From the information gathered in this review, EPA will identify any data gaps that may exist and will subsequently develop a sampling plan to address them. We anticipate that this effort will take approximately six months to complete. Once the data are collected, EPA will evaluate what additional actions, if any, may be warranted in accordance with CERCLA.

If you have further questions, please let me know or your staff may contact Peter B. Brandt, Chief for Intergovernmental & Community Affairs at 212-637-3657.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan J. Steinberg".

Alan J. Steinberg  
Regional Administrator

cc: Honorable Pete Grannis, Commissioner  
New York State Dept of Environmental Conservation