



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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April 25, 2013

David J. Rosen
Legislative and Budget Finance Officer
Office of Legislative Services
State House Annex, PO Box 068
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mr. Rosen:

In response to Senate Budget & Appropriations Committee Chair Sarlo's letter of April 16, 2013, please find responses to questions and requests raised by members of the committee.

Senator Pou:

- Please provide an update and status report on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's investigation and cleanup of the chromium contaminated Superfund site in the City of Garfield, where the former E.C. Electroplating Co. plant was located.

Response:

Background

As I mentioned in my testimony this is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lead site. EPA initiated a removal action at the E.C. Electroplating facility in the fall of 2011. Plating solution was removed from several tanks and placed in secured containers to be shipped off site to treatment and disposal facilities. Through the winter of 2011/2012 several hundred drums and containers were sampled and then shipped to off-site treatment and disposal facilities.

After the waste removal, EPA demolished the above ground structures on the E.C. Electroplating property. Air monitoring was conducted during demolition to ensure the health and safety of area residents and workers. Fencing to protect the public during demolition of the E.C. Electroplating facility was installed on portions of the public sidewalk. Within the next month EPA will move the fencing from the sidewalk onto the E.C. Electroplating property and place permanent privacy screening on the fence.

Residential Cleanup Progress

EPA found thirteen basements with hexavalent chromium above acceptable levels. Twelve of the thirteen property owners granted EPA access to remove the hexavalent chromium from their basements.

Twelve of thirteen properties found to contain hexavalent chromium in basement dust above acceptable levels have been cleaned by the EPA Removal Action Branch. Systems have been installed in the

basements to prevent further groundwater infiltration. EPA is performing quarterly basement monitoring and sampling in the study area to determine if conditions change over time.

Site Investigation and Cleanup Progress

In January 2011, EPA installed an extensive monitor well network in the southwest section of the city to determine the extent of groundwater contamination. Sampling data obtained from these wells will be used to complete a remedial investigation at the site.

EPA will move drilling equipment and conduct soil sampling at the former E.C. Electroplating site in spring 2013 to locate the source and delineate remaining chromium contamination. These analytical results will determine how wide and deep EPA must excavate to remove the source of chromium groundwater contamination. The size of the excavation will determine when EPA will start the excavation work and how long it will last.

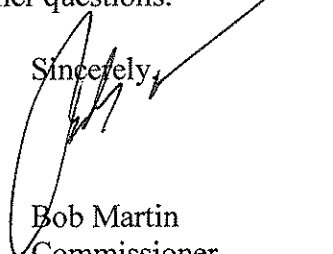
Senator Greenstein:

- The FY 2014 detailed budget shows a total of 2,724 positions for revised FY 2013 and 2,747 budgeted positions estimated for FY 2014, an increase of 23 positions for the Department. Please explain this increase and where in the department these positions will be placed. Also please identify the specific funding source for each position.

Response: The Funded Workforce Schedule provided in Appendices (H-19 and H-20) recognizes the availability of state, federal and other dedicated resources to support filled positions (or “employees on board”) at a “point in time” based on a payroll count. The Budget’s Funded Workforce for FY 2014 is closer to our current filled level which at the beginning of April was 2745.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Bob Martin
Commissioner