

March 9, 2005

Congressman Dave Camp
137 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Dave,

I am writing in concern for EPA funding of the Velsicol Chemical site in St. Louis, Michigan. Last year, at my request, Eric Freidman set up a meeting between the EPA, the St. Louis City Council, and yourself.

During that meeting, Stephanie Linebaugh, Project Manager for the EPA, stated that \$10 million a year would be spent on the river clean up until the project was completed. She also indicated that the St. Louis site was number one priority for her region.

We were recently told that funding for the project was cut to \$7 million this year, and that the project would be delayed another year because of this cut. We are very concerned about this funding cut.

Dave, I know that our nations priority is the war on terrorism and that the national budget is very challenging, but I feel justified in asking for your help in this matter.

As you know our community has been very resilient in dealing with the crises that this issue has caused us. Everyday I deal with the fact that companies will not invest in our community, such as an empty renaissance zone, and that people will not move here, because of "the water" when the real cause is fear of the pollution in the river and on the site.

The EPA and MQEQ continue to study the plant site. In the meanwhile another more dangerous non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) has been found since our meeting last year. No matter how many studies are conducted, it is my belief, that it is only a matter of time before the plant site causes a serious threat to the health and safety of our residents. All scientific studies aside; it is only a matter of logic, that a chemical landfill should not be located next to a river.

Clean up of the plant site will be very costly, yet what cost can be placed on water supplies and human life? I hope I can count on you to support us; this site, which has been such a negative to our community, can finally become a positive with your help.

In conclusion I would like to ask you if you feel another joint meeting between, EPA, MDEQ, elected officials and the CAG would be of any benefit. I know how important your time is. I also know what an important ally you have been to us. Please let me know what you think.

Respectfully,

George Kubin, Mayor
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