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Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

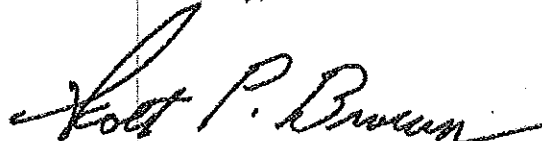
I write to you today regarding EPA's intention to submit its cleanup plan for the Rest of the Housatonic River to the National Remedy Review Board at the end of this month.

I recognize that both EPA and GE have undertaken years of preparation and studies and both should be commended for their commitment to cleaning up the remaining PCBs in the Housatonic River. I am troubled, however, that a submission to the Remedy Review Board at this time will prevent state and local environmental officials' as well as other affected parties' concerns from being addressed. Many are worried that the Board will simply rubber stamp EPA's preferred alternative and the subsequent comment period will yield little to no changes.

Specifically, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' has expressed to my office that their proposals have not been given proper recognition or consideration. The Commonwealth is a significant landowner in the area of the River targeted for cleanup. State environmental officials need assurance that the plan to be implemented will meet health and environmental standards, cleanup PCBs, and refrain from being overly invasive to the scenic portions of the River. Of particular concern, is that significant dredging of this portion of the river will lead to the establishment of PCB dumps. Therefore, I respectfully request that EPA delay their submission to the Remedy Review Board and engage in thoughtful and detailed discussions with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, representatives from GE, local officials, and other affected parties in order to properly address all concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued commitment to the cleanup of the Housatonic River. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Scott P. Brown
United States Senator

Cc: Curt Spalding, EPA Region 1 Administrator