

APR 2 : 2004

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Ms. Debbic Geen, Chairperson Residential Vision Committee of Rochester Hills 3128 Walton Boulevard - Suite 187 Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309

Dear Ms. Geen:

Thank you for your letter dated March 23, 2004, to Thomas Skinner, Regional Administrator. You raised a number of questions regarding the potential development at the Veteran's/Cardinal Landfill property located at the southeast corner of Adams and Hamlin Roads in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) reviewed your letter and your attached Affidavit of James Reid. We also reviewed all our active data bases. Based on the reviewed information, U.S. EPA believes that this site is not a priority site in which the Agency should target its limited cleanup resources at this time. Rather, this appears to be a land-use issue and U.S. EPA does not typically get involved with land-use issues unless the site presents an imminent or substantial endangerment to human health and/or the environment.

U.S. EPA is aware of the growth pressures that are compelling local governments to look to develop sites/properties that were formerly used for industrial, manufacturing, or commercial purposes and that are contaminated or potentially contaminated with hazardous substances. Under the U.S. EPA Brownfields program, the redevelopment of these types of sites is actively supported and encouraged. U.S. EPA also encourages public-private partnerships, and promotes innovative and creative ways to assess, clean up, and redevelop these types of sites. We support and encourage the state and local environmental and economic development officials to oversee the clean up activities and provide local solutions to local problems.

We will continue to monitor this situation. U.S. EPA encourages you to continue to work with the City of Rochester, Oakland County, and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). If you have any questions, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Brooke Furio, Brownfields Project Manager at 312.353.2513 or furio.brooke@epa.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Richard C. Karl, Acting Director Superfund Division

cc: Kay Hudson
ORA Reading file
ORA w/control slip
ERB w/control slip