

October 16, 2015

Ms. Joan Tanaka, Superfund Division
U.S. EPA Region 5, SR-6J
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Re: Tremont Barrel Fill Site

Dear Ms. Tanaka,

Thank you for conducting the public meeting for the Tremont City Barrel Fill on August 27th at Northwestern High School. As a community we appreciate USEPA's efforts to listen to the input from the citizens and businesses of Clark County regarding this vitally important issue.

As you witnessed by the attendance and participation at both the public forum and the meeting at the Chamber of Commerce office earlier in the day, there is overwhelming resistance against Plan 9a and overpowering support for Plan 4a by the community and our political leadership.

We agree with Ohio EPA Director Craig Butler, that it is abundantly clear that what the community wants is **all hazardous waste to be removed from the site**. We also agree with Director Butler that while it is very important for this site to be listed on the National Priorities List, Plan 9a is unacceptable and that the next step is up to Region 5.

We fully understand that cost is one of the criteria used in determining any cleanup and that the greater costs for Plan 4a include trucking out contaminated soils. US EPA has many possible approaches to treating hazardous soils, none of which has been seriously considered in interactions Region 5 has had with the community since 4a was presented.

If the USEPA looked at an option of removing all hazardous wastes including liquids, sludge and fifty-five gallon containers and treated any remaining contaminated soil **on site**, those costs would drop substantially. Additionally, the overall cleanup would then achieve both risk based and regulatory based cleanup criteria.

Sincerely,

Larry R. Ricketts

Mary Jeanne Ricketts, RN

cc: Craig Butler, Director, Ohio EPA
Regina McCarthy, Director, USEPA
Susan Hedman, Administrator, USEPA Region 5
Richard Karl, Director, Superfund Division, USEPA Region 5
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