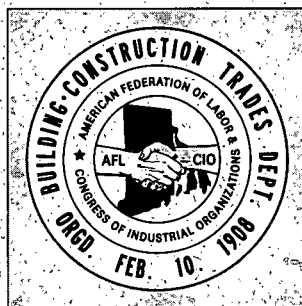


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Michael F. Sabitoni
President

RHODE ISLAND



BUILDING TRADES

December 7, 2011

Scott Duhamel
Secretary/Treasurer

Superfund Records Center
SITE: Centerdale
BREAK: 5-3
OTHER: 506533



SDMS DocID

506533

To Whom It May Concern:

The Centerdale Restoration Project will have many short and long term positive impacts on the residents as well as the communities near the contaminated areas. Specifically, by cleaning up the lands and removing toxic contaminants, the communities can avoid any possible or potential health issues linked to the different toxins that were found. In addition, we are preserving and maintaining the wildlife and ecosystem in the affected areas. What is being created is a better overall landscape, environment and eco-system.

As far as short term disturbance, different steps would be taken to reduce the possible and temporary effects of construction. One way is that the work will be done in phases so that all the neighborhoods will not be affected at once.

This cost of this project is a \$101,000,000, which will create substantial work opportunities for Building Tradesmen and Woman, the unemployment rate was 10.5% and in 2009, 12% of the population was living below poverty levels unemployment for the construction industry is at 40%. The State of Rhode Island needs to create opportunities for its skilled labor force and put its citizens back to work. This project will help many families bring a steady stream of income back into their homes which intern will be put into the local economy. The local economy benefits because workers are using their income to buy goods and services, which supports other local industries.

Another benefit to this restoration project is that the land, once cleaned, could be developed, thereby creating flow if tax revenues for the different municipalities.

The EPA has conducted significant research and studies on the affected areas and environments dating back to 1999. The result from this long and extensive research is that the EPA recommends that these grounds be cleaned and the contaminants be removed. Also the EPA believes that the treatment and disposal will achieve long term risk reduction. The project will utilize proven clean technologies as well. Point being, proper due diligence was conducted and I agree with the results and recommendations that were found.

Exposures to contaminants possess potential health risks and danger for both people and wildlife. Lead has been linked to toxicity in the nervous system, both in adults and children.

Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council

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It may also cause weakness in fingers, wrists, or ankles. Lead exposure can potentially causes small increases in blood pressure, particularly in middle-aged and older people and can cause anemia. The EPA has also determined that lead is a probable human carcinogen.

As for Arsenic, it has been linked to nausea and vomiting, decreased production of red and white blood cells, abnormal heart rhythm, damage to blood vessels, and a sensation of "pins and needles" in hands and feet. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the EPA have determined that inorganic arsenic is also a known human carcinogen. Cadmium is also a known to be a Human Carcinogen. Breathing high levels of cadmium can severely damage the lungs. Long-term exposure to lower levels of cadmium in air, food, or water can lead to a buildup of cadmium in the kidneys and possible kidney disease.

On behalf of the 10,000 Tradesmen and Women of the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council, we support this remediation project for all the reasons mentioned above.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL F. SABITONI
Business Manager

Cc: The Honorable Charles A. Lombardi, Mayor, Town of North Providence
The Honorable Joseph Polisena, Mayor, Town of Johnston
North Providence Town Council Members
Johnston Town Council Members

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