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October 14, 2011

Via Email (sgrayberg@msn.com)

Stephen Grayberg
Pompton Lake Environmental Community Advisory Group

Re: Remediation of Pompton Lake

Dear Mr. Grayberg:

This firm serves as General Counsel to the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission ("NJDWSC"). As such, I am in receipt of a May 2, 2011 letter written by Barbara A. Finazzo of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("USEPA") to NJDWSC. In addition to providing a status update on the remediation of Pompton Lake by DuPont, it also encourages NJDWSC to participate in the remediation process by becoming involved with the Environmental Community Advisory Group ("CAG") and the Lake Workgroup ("Workgroup"). NJDWSC has asked me to prepare this correspondence in response.

Let me begin by saying that NJDWSC greatly appreciates the invitation to directly participate in the Pompton Lake remediation process through the CAG and the Workgroup. However, at the present time, direct participation does not appear to be necessary. As pointed out by Adolph Everett of USEPA Region 2 in CAG's May 4, 2011 meeting minutes, while NJDWSC does occasionally divert water from the Pompton Lake pump station to other locations where it is mixed with other sources prior to treatment, test results analyzed by USEPA confirm that the "remediation does not impact the reservoir status." Moreover, as a point of clarification, since there seems to be some confusion in the CAG's April and May meeting minutes, NJDWSC does not own the Pompton Lake.

Although, at this time, NJDWSC will not be directly participating in either the CAG's or the Workgroup's meetings, NJDWSC will continue to actively monitor the remediation process. Moreover, NJDWSC would very much like to continue receiving



information on the remediation as disseminated by the USEPA, the CAG, and the Workgroup. I would like to point out that any suggestion in the CAG's meeting minutes that NJDWSC has ignored the process or has refused to respond to inquiries from local community groups is simply misleading and NJDWSC would like the record to reflect that sentiment. NJDWSC is sternly committed to its role as a steward of the environment and has always viewed community assistance as critical to effectively serving in that role. As a matter of fact, NJDWSC is currently in the process of working with the community of Pompton Lakes regarding the potential donation of surplus vehicles that could facilitate future emergency responses such as evacuations associated with the flooding caused by Hurricane Irene. NJDWSC looks forward to continuing its supportive relationship with the local community, including the CAG and the Workgroup as the Pompton Lake remediation process continues.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP

By: 

for Francis J. Borin

FJB:eb

cc Barbara A. Finazzo
Executive Director, NJDWSC