November 14, 2006

Mr. Gregory L. Simpson
Project Manager
Textron, Inc.
40 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Community Response to Textron's assertion that the Gorham Manufacturing Smelter was a former **"Primary Lead Processing Facility"**

Dear Mr. Simpson:

We are in receipt of Textron's e-mail sent to Joe Martella on November 7, 2006 and posted on the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) website for your hazardous waste site, specifically, parcel D the Park Parcel located at 333 Adelaide Avenue, Providence, RI. The ongoing discussion and disagreement over the status of the "slag material" located on the Textron/Gorham site has taken a disturbing twist. To identify the smelter at building V on the banks of the cove as a Primary Lead Processing Plant is unfounded and reckless. Simply because exccedence levels of lead, copper beryllium, and zinc contaminates are constituents of the slag pile and corresponding soils proves nothing except that the deleterious material is a hazardous waste and must be removed. For Textron attorney Jameson Schiff Esq. to misrepresent Building V as a lead processing plant simply to embrace the "Bevill" exemptions sanctioned by the EPA for specific industries is unconscionable.

In your correspondence to the RIDEM, Textron implies that you have, and have had, access to an *"extensive historical archive"* relating to the Textron/Gorham manufacturing operations. Textron's implication that they have such records is encouraging to those of us in the community who have been assigned to gather background data on the site. We've all worked hard to find resources that produce reliable, accurate and consistent historical evidence of both the activities and practices utilized on your hazardous waste site, including Mashapaug pond, and the cove. These resources include past employees of the manufacturing plant at 333 Adelaide Avenue. The same former employees available to Textron for supporting information and background on the daily functioning of your facilities at the Adelaide avenue site. In the spirit of the Superior Court consent order, issued in April of 2005, which makes the community an active and equal stakeholder in this process, we feel it is incumbent of Textron to share these files with all active stakeholders upon request. Please formally respond to this inquiry, and guide us as how to proceed with filing a formal request to review these historical documents which you clearly feel should be incorporated into your analysis. Ultimately, Textron could then utilize this data to correct and or update their Site Conceptual Model; which is used to better understand the degree of contamination as well as the fate and transport of said pollution.

ABB (MACTEC) engineering has been investigating this site as Textron's consultants since March of 1994. Dave McCabe, an employee of ABB at the time of the initial site investigations and assessments between 1994 and 2000, became project manager in 1996, succeeding Dr. Ellen Cool. Mr. McCabe was instrumental in modifying and generating most of the data retrieved from the property, and crafted all the *"Work Plans"* and *"Investigation Reports"* for Textron's site. This included an extensive groundwater survey and hydrological modeling devices developed to determine the disposition of groundwater and soil contamination on site. Other than driving one well in the slag area in November of 1994 Mr. McCabe, as project manager for ABB engineering, essentially ignored any and all indications that potential consequences existed form the slag pile and its surrounding material. Dave McCabe now works for Textron in the capacity of site remediation manager. His transfer to Textron was within months of the final approval for his *"Site Remediation Plan"* submitted to the RIDEM in April of 2001. He too has now had access to Textron's "extensive historical archive" chronicled by Mr. Simpson, and yet there has never been any mention of the smelting facility on the banks of the cove being a "primary lead processing facility". In fact, no aspect of Mr. McCabe's investigations and remediation plans spanning the last twelve years references the smelter what so ever. One of the community's primary concerns *(there are many)* is how poorly this site has been characterized by Mr., McCabe and his associates. The Site Models

designed by Mr. McCabe and used today to represent the site and its conditions are anemic and flawed. Some aspects are simply site "fables".

We have compiled an extensive research file on the smelter at Building V on the banks of the cove. It was clearly not a primary lead smelter. The facility was originally constructed in 1915 to accommodate a plethora of munitions contracts Gorham received from Europe at the out set of World War I. By the time the United States entered the conflict in 1917 Gorham Manufacturing had retooled their entire plant for the production of ammunition cartridges made out of both brass and copper. Building V functioned primarily as a **Secondary Copper Smelting** plant for the next sixty (60) years with out interruption. Besides the high levels of toxic metal contamination in and on the bluff area where the slag pile is located; the small smelting plant is also directly responsible for the extremely high dioxin levels found in the adjacent cove; which building V discharged directly into via two six inch waste lines. Some of the inadvertent dioxin production was emitted atmospherically, but the majority was discharged into the pond as wastewater throughout the smelters operation. Additionally the fly ash residue left after the burn was routinely dumped into the cove and on the bluff. The elevated terrestrial dioxin readings to the east of the slag pile are also a product of the **Secondary Copper Smelting** done on site. Obviously this entire quadrant of the North Bluff should be better characterized before any additional construction takes place *(i.e., a new access road to the slag pile proposed by Textron and the City of Providence)*. Most disturbing to the community is the fact that ABB (MACTEC) and Textron refused to sample for dioxins over the last twenty years while professing to have extensively evaluated the entire site. Not until the RIDEM tested for dioxin in some limited samples from the cove in December of 2005 did Textron begrudgingly acknowledge that they would test for that parameter. Up until that point, Michael J. Murphy, a Senior Principal Environmental Scientist at MACTEC, told the community emphatically that no conditions existed at the Textron facility, which could possibly produce dioxin. Dioxin is now recognized as potentially our most significant problem on the "Park Parcel" and in the Mashapaug Pond and Cove. All fish tissue tested to date has elevated dioxin levels. It should be noted that the RIDEM was compelled to test the cove because we had done so in September 2005, and found alarming results for arsenic, lead and TCE. The few contaminants we could afford to test for.

Secondly, Textron has characterized the slag pile as a product from the smelter over time, and the slag, which accumulated in the location it was discovered, was the only inherent contamination on the bluff area. Following their reasoning that if the slag is exempt from RCRA, CERCLA, or any other regulations under the Bevill exemption then also the soil in contact with the slag material is exempt, but this is not an accurate representation of the contamination strewn throughout this portion of the North bluff, as Textron has named it. When the smelter, building V, was constructed it was actually on the cove shoreline. The distance between the footprint of the smelter and the existing shoreline today is almost one hundred and fifty (150') feet. The bluff in its entirety is a collection of industrial waste and debris from the plant collected over the seventy years that the plant continued in operation. We have collected numerous testimonials from both employees and delivery drivers who have implied that over an acre and a half of the cove has been filled in with industrial waste, debris, and rubble. Therefore any areas that Textron is managing material should be tested for confirmatory TCLP leach testing. Or, if it is deemed appropriate under the conditions that exist by either the EPA or RIDEM the Synthetic Precipitate Leachate Procedure (SPLP) could be administered as an alternative confirmatory testing procedure. The community insists, as an equal stakeholder in this site, that a comprehensive testing event occur and continues to occur until all material capable of leaching has been removed and test results reveal that there will be no leaching in the future. We are beginning to understand why Textron and their consultants MACTEC took the risk of backfilling a large portion of the removal area prior to confirmatory testing and, or, any clearance from the RIDEM. They fully expect the worst, as we do.

Not until the community tested the area of slag in November of 2005 and found lead at dangerously high levels, did either the RIDEM or Textron decide to investigate further. The slag pile is less than twenty (20') feet from the proposed high school property and is clearly an attractive nuisance to the children that the City of Providence wants to install in this facility. At this juncture Textron has implemented some removal actions, but as stated above, RIDEM and Textron continue to argue over what constitutes the drivers that establish the limits of contamination for this remedial removal program. What about the school children and potential ecological consequences to the sensitive aquatic community of the cove, less than ten (10') feet downgradiant? Are these not valid reasons to eliminate not only the contaminated product but also to make sure the material left on site will not leach out over time! Textron continues to

adamantly refuse confirmatory testing of the soils in proximity to the slag pile for any leaching potential. The community believes that they have already tested the conjoined soils of the slag pile, and the material continues to fail the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP). The TCLP is a test approved by both the EPA and the RIDEM to determine if materials do produce a leachate, and if so, need to be removed, transported off site, and disposed of at a licensed facility. They already know what the results are, and Textron wants to leave this contamination in the ground; ultimately manifesting itself sometime in the future and becoming the community's burden. When will the brinkmanship end? Our community deserves better and our children deserve better. We say so, Environmental Justice Issues say so, and the pond and the cove say so. Hopefully the EPA and the RIDEM will also say so...

Regards,

Robert F.L. Dorr

Robert F.L. Dorr for the community,

Concerned Citizens of the Reservoir Triangle and South Providence

Enclosures
RFLD/mm

Terrence D. Gray, P.E., Assistant Director, RIDEM/AW&C
Brian Wagner, Esq., RIDEM/OLS
Joseph T. Martella II, RIDEM/OWM
Richard Enander, PHD, RIDEM/OTCA/Risk Assessment
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Tammie A. McRae, ATSDR
Joe Maloney, ATSDR
Senator Jack Reed, U.S. Senate
Senator Lincoln Chafee, U.S. Senate
Representative James Langivin, U.S. House
Representative Patrick Kennedy, U.S. House
Senator Juan Pichardo, District 2
Representative Grace Diaz
Representative Thomas Slater
Honorable David n. Cicilline, Mayor, City of Providence
Councilman John J. Lombardi, City of Providence
Councilman Leon Tejadia, City of Providence
Councilman Miguel Luna, City of Providence
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