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March 12, 2008

Mr. Terrence Gray
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02808-5025

RE: Park Parcel Remediation
Former Gorham Site

Dear Mr. Gray:

Members of my staff have repeatedly expressed to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) the need for action on the part of the DEM so that Park Parcel cleanup activities can begin. As I understand the situation, we have been waiting for DEM to issue a Program Letter since October 2007. At this point in time, I am very concerned that in the absence of immediate DEM staff attention to this matter, another construction season will pass with no progress made. This will result in a missed opportunity to demonstrate to the community progress on this project the community supports, the creation of a park area.

We understand that DEM's main delays center on staffing issues and our proposed background concentration averaging method. We recently proposed a modification, leaving out this averaging method. This would allow DEM to consider our approach with respect to that area at a later date, while not further delaying implementation of the vast majority of the Park Parcel Phase cleanup. I urge you to address this matter with applicable DEM staff to avoid further delays of this work that was originally planned to be completed during the summer of 2006. Alternatively, I would ask you to advise me if further DEM delays are anticipated so we can accurately inform the community about realistic implementation dates.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Brayley
Executive Director, Environmental Health & Safety

cc: Joseph Martella (DEM)
Thomas Deller (Providence Redevelopment Agency)