

Sent letter to Assistant Secretary of the Army Jo-Ellen Darcy

Clean up of radioactive material at the Shallow Land Disposal Area (SLDA) in Parks Twp, Armstrong Co

There have been many cover-ups and disappointments in the long road to determine the extent of the problem here and to make appropriate judgements about the best way to handle the clean-up of these deadly materials.

This community and its elected officials have found the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corp of Engineers to be honest with us about the clean-up effort and we want this Corp to maintain total jurisdiction and control of the SLDA under the program known as FUSRAP or Formerly Sites Remedial Action Program. We do not want to give control of this project back to the NRC and BWXT.

We also request that the Army Corp extend the tours of duty of Colonel William Graham and Major Robert Elliott, so that the clean-up can proceed with the benefit of their valued knowledge in the hope that we can avoid further regulatory mishaps.

Because of the misrepresentations by former companies and agencies, the Corp has set out to evaluate the true extent of contamination. It is imperative that the responsible parties be held at arms length for purposes of this evaluation, but that they be held accountable for the costs of the remediation.

Our homes have been devalued, the very existence of our businesses threatened. This site must be cleaned up in such a way as to safeguard our people and restore our economic health. If this cannot be accomplished, then the parties responsible must make us whole. These companies made their money at the expense of the health and even the very lives of the people we loved who came before us. We should not still be footing the bill, nor should our children.

As a final consideration for the well being of this community, I request that the Federal Protection Service under Homeland Security remain until the clean-up project is complete. And we ask that the EPA and PA Dept. of Environmental Protection have voices in this matter. *Transparency is a must and a right of the people. Test our air, groundwater, springs, aquifers, river and vegetation on a regular basis.*

We have paid such a heavy price. We must demand our rights to live in our community without the threat that radioactive exposure brings to us and to our children.

For Public Comment Meeting on SLDA, 6/26/12, Parks Township Fire Hall

Text:

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on the matter of the cleanup at the Parks Township SLDA.

First I wish to express my concurrence and endorsement of all the requests as submitted by Patty Ameno. As with all those who have endorsed the document, and as one who is directly involved as a consultant on this project, I am pleased to add my vote of confidence to the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps of Engineers to complete the safe and comprehensive removal of the nuclear wastes and materials present at the SLDA.

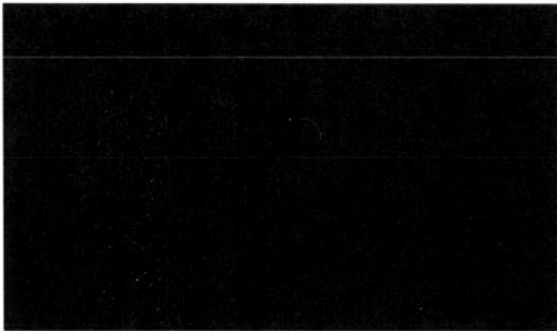
"Safe and Comprehensive Removal" ---- The Ultimate Goal.

From the time he assumed command, Col. Graham has kept our community informed about this project through a continuing series of public meetings and has answered questions about our concerns. More importantly, at every meeting he emphasizes that his highest priority is safety for the workers, for the community and indeed for all involved plus his commitment to achieve a complete removal of all material of concern. He has demonstrated his dedication to safety by stopping the project at the first sign of a safety violation and has personally assured us that work will not begin until the problems are understood and corrected. We thank him and feel confident he will continue to put "safety first".

The comments below primarily address issues of safety.

1. That ACE authorizes the continuation of research effort to further identify nuclear materials of concern. The latest research contract was cancelled by the prime contractor after excavation work was terminated and before research could begin. Since safe handling and transportation procedures vary according to the identity and amounts of expected isotopes, additional knowledge should provide additional safety.

2. That the communication links between the contractors and the Corps is constant and seamless to identify and anticipate any further unsafe complexities.
3. That qualified former NUMEC personnel be used to identify excavated materials before safely moving it from the burial site.
4. That the selection criteria for contractors not only include examples of previous successful management and conduct of similar remedial projects, but also include information demonstrating a priority commitment to safety for those projects.
5. That the contracts with the contractors be other than "Fixed Price" to discourage the use of "short cuts" and other unauthorized means to reduce costs at the expense of safety.



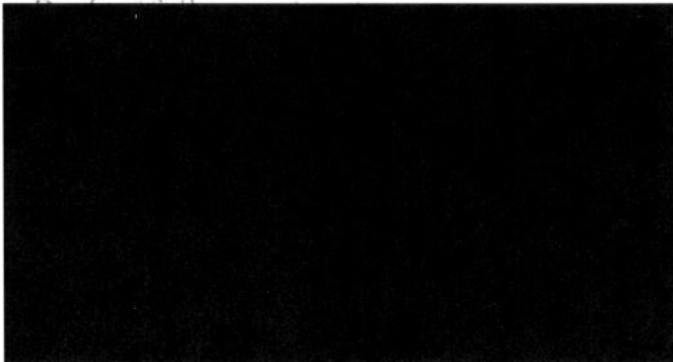
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Army Corp of Engineers Fight for Us

DO NOT want NRC to oversee clean-up of site along with the companies.

The NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) was to be overseeing the operations of the companies in question, NUMEC, Atlantic Richfield (ARCO) and Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) for the years they were in operation at the Apollo as well as at the Parks township facility. With the knowledge of what they left happen at both site locations, Apollo & Parks township site having them in charge of this massive undertaking would be a mistake. They had the responsibility back then while in operation to make sure there was oversight and that the situation we currently are dealing with is proof that there was a huge LACK of oversight and not a concern for the well being of the workers, citizens of the surrounding communities, property values and the community as a whole. What is to make a person think they would care now considering it may be a costly clean-up effort? I feel neither the companies nor the NRC would have our best interest at heart.

We need an unbiased party to be taking on this huge responsibility to make sure it is done in an efficient, thorough and most importantly safe manner.



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June 25, 2012

Moments; I am writing this to oppose the project to move the radioactive waste dump in Parks township. The reason I am writing this is that I Believe this Move will cause more exposure to radiation and radioactivity than leaving it in place imperpituity at a cost the nation cannot afford.

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My technical Background:

The reasons I am opposed to cleanup of this site are:

- 1) This site has not exposed anyone to radiation much much above background radiation for over 60 years.
- 2) This site has not yet released any radioactivity to surrounding groundwater for many years. Explanation: U, Th and the Trans U compounds are extremely insoluble and will not go into the groundwater.
- 3) I contend that if left undisturbed it will remain as it is for thousands of years.
- 4) Cleaning up this site will expose the area residents to radioactivity in the dust generated. It will certainly expose the workmen on the project!!
- 5) There is also the hazard associated with the transport of this material to a new burial site.
- 6) The project is not cost effective. For \$500 million ,you could repair the locks and dams on the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers. Or refurbish 10 bridges like our Freeport Bridge. IE. There are more deserving projects.
- 7) There are more serious radiation and radioactive exposure threats to our health. Such as Radon in the natural environment, medical X ray exposure, and flying at high altitudes.

For these reason I would recomendthis project not be continued. It would not protect anyone from radioactive and radiation related health problems.

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TESTIMONY

It is absolutely imperative the total project, from beginning to end, remain under the complete jurisdiction and control of the Pittsburgh District of the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers.

And, furthermore, that the total removal, transportation, and eventual storage of the contaminated materials be done in such a manner that would insure maximum safety to all individuals concerned and to the environment.

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Tuesday, June 26, 2012



Police (724) 845-7979
Fax (724) 845-6376
Emergency 911



Secretary (724) 845-0981
Fax (724) 845-6376



GILPIN TOWNSHIP

589 State Route 66
Leechburg, PA 15656

June 26, 2012

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] My community is located directly west of Parks Township. The nuclear waste dump is located approximately 1/2 mile east of our contiguous border.

I have been an appointed/elected Supervisor in Gilpin Township since 1992. Approximately ten (10) years ago our Board of Supervisors approved a resolution which was passed by a vote of 5 yes and 0 nays supporting Federal legislation being proposed at that time by the late great Congressman John Murtha to clean up the toxic site.

Congressman Murtha was successful in getting his bill through both the U. S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. It was signed into law by the President.

The unique feature of this landmark legislation was that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was designated as the Federal Agency charged with supervising this project. I, personally, was very pleased that this agency was chosen to supervise this very important activity.

I want to go on record at this time reinforcing my support of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the Federal Agency delegated to supervise the cleanup activities. I do not want to see the Corps of Engineers removed from this project and responsibility for supervision of the cleanup operations placed in the hands of another Federal agency. This would only set back the timeline established for the completion of this project.

Thank you for your time.

Dennis L. Wolfe
Gilpin Township Supervisor



ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP

WESTMORELAND COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

**Public Testimony of Allegheny Township, Westmoreland County
In Reference To
The Parks Township Nuclear Waste Dump and the
Corps of Army Engineers Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program
(FUSRAP)**

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Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is [REDACTED], and I submit this testimony today representing the Allegheny Township Board of Supervisors [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

It is extremely important for me to emphasize the importance of geography as it relates to economic development for any community. Our land's value is subject to the neighbors we have and how well they keep their property. If our neighbors have a junk yard, our property value decreases, likewise, if our neighbors have a well kept piece of property our land becomes more valuable and sellable. I give this analogy to make a point. Although we have all been victims of this nuclear dump site, it has been in very good hands with the Corps of Army Engineers. They very competently have been working diligently to remove our proverbial "junk yard" so that the future economy of the Valley becomes stable once again, not only for Parks Township, but for its neighbors as well.

Allegheny Township has had experience with the Corp working in our community. In 2005 a cleanup of the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority Lagoon was completed with the Army Corp at the helm. We were able to see first hand the level of skill, expertise and care that was used to finish that project, all the while maintaining the community as the focus of the project. They kept residents well informed, exercised great safety and care in utilizing our roads and expeditiously completed the project for the betterment of all. The Corps has been managing the Parks project in a similar manner. With the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, Proposed Plan, and Record of Decision (ROD) all being completed to date, removal of their expertise from this project at this point would be a devastating blow to our community likely resulting in many additional years to complete this remediation. If we are ever to hope that this property once again becomes a viable piece of the economic puzzle, we need to keep moving forward on the path that has currently been in place. Parks Township's ability to have this property's needs addressed is critical to all of our local elected officials. We all work to make our communities thrive, residentially and commercially, so being in direct proximity to this site absolutely effects the economic well being of Allegheny Township. With their success comes our success.

The economy in our area is strictly and directly tied to environmental impacts by the way in which we manage our water resources in improving the quality of our citizens' lives. It has affected where and how people live and influenced the development of this country including the Kiski Valley. Our country today seeks economic development as well as the protection of

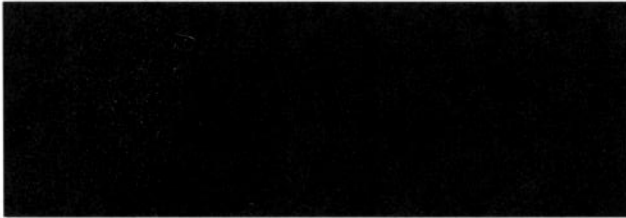
environmental values. They are key partners in economic development initiatives. Nothing should happen on this property that would further jeopardize the tax base with stagnant remediation or backwards remediation.

As we look into the future of this site and the region, we do know that there are challenges and opportunities. As we recover from this economic downturn, we must make investments and assurances today to address the realities of the future. It has been a slow climb out of this recession but we are well up the ladder in our recovery. Any change to how this property is being currently handled is certain to knock us back toward the bottom.

The local Elected Officials would like to see The Corps of Engineers be committed to staying at the leading edge in service to this project. In support of that, we are working with other local officials to transform our regional communities into destinations spots to further commerce, enhance residential neighborhoods and provide quality infrastructure. We're committed to a process that leads to open and transparent modernization, as well as a performance-based project that only the Corps of Army Engineers can provide.

This concludes my statement and I thank you for your letting me provide testimony.

Sincerely, Exemption #6 - privacy





Information on this card will be used to notify you of additional information.

(Information used to create a mailing list)

Address

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City

State

Zip

Email

Phone

*Please place comments on the back of this card

☐ Self
☐ Organization
☒ Federal/State/Local Government Agency
☐ Other

Written comments/inquiries may be sent to:

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
ATTN: Shallow Land Disposal Area
1000 Liberty Avenue
22nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Email: Celrp-PA@usace.army.mil

COMMENTS:

Very informative. Had approx. to the taking group. I was very
satisfied. Thank you for the good work.

A Voice For You I Paid you down

1st Post

What is the worst thing that could happen if you don't clean up the nuclear dump? - it hasn't already happened in the last 25 to 30 years.

2nd Post

Shouldn't it be cheaper to buy some of the property in Kaskaskia and make that and the nuclear dump a graveyard, or is it too expensive even for that?

Plus are you within a 5 mile radius from the dump? Should have

it by now - it's not there - it's not

... it's not there ...
They are really close to the ...
and have ... it's caused ...



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... the name of ...
... the name of ...



Numec was not only the AEC's AUTHORIZED nuclear waste dump, but Numec also offered waste burial services to any plant operating nationwide that was willing to TRUCK TOXIC MATERIAL into PARKS Twp. Are there RECORDS disclosing what TOXIC MATERIAL CAME TO PARKS for burial? what ARE THE CONSEQUENCES of this TOXIC waste mixing with Numec's buried waste?

Numec OPERATED a BORON 10 plant at LEWISTON, N.Y. which had SECRET weapons programs. Was ANY of this waste disposed of at PARKS Twp? what about co-mingling of wastes?

Numec had a REACTOR at Quehanna (Northern PA.) Was this waste brought to PARKS Twp?

A portion of the WANA Westinghouse

CONTRACT WAS SHIPPED TO THE COOR'S
plant in COLORADO for PROCESSING
and the FINISHED PRODUCT RETURNED
to NUMEC. WAS ANY OF THE SCRAP
SENT BACK TO NUMEC FOR BURIAL?

WHERE WERE THE 1500 BARRELS OF
Beryllium SCRAP WHICH WERE
STORED AT THE Apollo plant SENT FOR
BURIAL? PARKS Twp?

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THE NUMEC AFFAIR

June 25, 2012

Army Corps of Engineers
Public Affairs Office
1000 Liberty Ave. Room 2202
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222-4186

Dear Public Affairs,

We are currently residents of Kiskimere, we live very close to the land site, the property of Babcock & Wilcox. I am currently a cancer survivor of breast cancer and thyroid disease.

We know exactly whats in the ground, and its not safe to have any amount of people around it no matter how you take it out.

The Army Corp of Engineers has done a fine job, but They can not change what is in that ground and how it effects peoples health.

If you move the people out by buying them out like Centraillia, Pa. the people would at least have a chance to be safe. Once there is an accident and there already was an accident there is nothing you can do after exposed to radiation.

It will end up like Chernoble. I have a beautiful home and I would hate to loose it, but my families health is more important. This is so sad.

Please consider moving the people out. Once you have them out you will have the whole territory To yourself and guards.

Thank-you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

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The Parks Township nuclear waste dump question (and related issues such as healthcare and former worker compensation) will remain unanswered until it is properly addressed. The organization and individuals responsible for creating the problem—the Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation—have not been placed in proper context or held accountable.

NUMEC shares the heritage of a peculiar type of organization. Materials for Palestine, Foundry Associates,

Service Airways, Mar-Tech, Heli Trading Company, Milchan Brothers, MILCO, Telogy are all front companies that were formed to illegally ship military goods to Israel. The last four were involved in nuclear technology smuggling. NUMEC was created for the same purpose as Zalman Shapiro, former smuggler David Lowenthal, and other key organizers worked to gain access to AEC-regulated weapons-grade uranium to divert to Israel.

The Army Corps of Engineers has confirmed receipt of my comprehensive study (Divert! NUMEC, Zalman Shapiro and the diversion of US weapons grade uranium into the Israeli nuclear weapons program) tracing NUMEC's origins, operations, and employee affidavits to the FBI that Zalman Shapiro stuffed canisters of U-235 into irradiator equipment shipped to Israel. We offer as many complimentary copies as you require. Once the core purpose of NUMEC, a suspiciously undercapitalized business established in highly inappropriate facilities, is grasped it becomes obvious that the former plant sites in Apollo and the Parks Township are not toxic pollution sites—they are crime scenes.

If a bona fide investigation and timely prosecutions had ever taken place—a 1978 GAO report <<http://irmep.org/ila/nukes/NUMEC/default.asp>> affirms such accountability was thwarted—much of the fallout could have been avoided. This includes the AEC pressuring an oil company to acquire NUMEC in 1967 in exchange for Hanford management contracts, and Babcock and Wilcox taking over to maintain a flow of U.S. Navy contracts. These transactions would not have happened but for deep corruption within the AEC, which thwarted warranted investigations, even after traces of divert NUMEC uranium were picked up in Israel. In a perfect world, compensation for the NUMEC disaster would be paid by the very same Americans who improperly profited from it (Zalman Shapiro, David Lowenthal, Leonard Pepkowitz, and Frederick Foerscher.) Under a just outcome, the cost of cleanup and health-related compensation would be borne by the Israeli Atomic Energy Commission (the Israeli weapons-development front organization which had a joint venture, ISORAD, with NUMEC) and the Israeli government. US organizations on the periphery that provided political and two directors to NUMEC, such as the Zionist Organization of America, would now defray the massive costs. As a final gesture, stolen U-235 enough for many weapons, would be publicly returned to the US by the leader most responsible for its theft—Shimon Peres.

What dangers lie beneath the soil in the Parks Township dump are unknowable, because every organ of the US government that dealt with the NUMEC question, the AEC, FBI, CIA, Justice Department, presidents from Johnson to Carter, the NRC, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and others utterly failed to resolve it. Victims have understandably directed their efforts against the deepest pockets, such as the Congress and companies left holding the NUMEC bag (ARCO and B&W Technologies). Meanwhile, a great deal of useful classified information

generated by the CIA, FBI, NSA, National Archives Presidential Libraries and other entities remains classified. As we've already communicated declassified files of a 1969 spill caused by Shapiro and Lowenthal's negligence, this information could help lower costs and improve safety, but only if it is fully declassified and transferred into the public domain.

In summary, the former NUMEC properties are crime scenes. No act was too criminal, heinous or negligent for its owners to engage in to achieve their clandestine designs. This is abundantly clear to any who read "Divert!" or consult the key documents with an open mind. (see <http://www.irmep.org/ila/numec>) Until there is a bona fide effort to release classified information about unprosecuted crimes and seek restitution from the true perpetrators through an open truth and reconciliation process, the US Army Corps of Engineers will become the latest patsy in a cruel atomic game of musical chairs when NUMEC's discordant tune again grinds to a halt.

Cc: US Attorney - Pittsburgh

Grant F. Smith | Director | Institute for Research: Middle Eastern Policy, Inc.

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<<mailto:gsmith@irmep.org>> | <http://www.IRmep.org>

To research and improve US-Middle East policy formulation.

**STATEMENT
OF
PATRICIA J. AMENO, CHAIRPERSON
CITIZEN'S ACTION FOR A SAFE ENVIRONMENT
ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF THE KISKI VALLEY**

**As supported and signed by
elected officials, school superintendent, clergy, business owners and authority manager**

REGARDING

**THE FATE OF THE
SHALLOW LAND DISPOSAL AREA**

PRESENTED BEFORE

 **THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PITTSBURGH DISTRICT** 

AND THE

CITIZENS OF THE KISKI VALLEY

Parks Township, Pennsylvania

JUNE 26, 2012

 **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS COMMAND:** 

LIEUTENANT GENERAL THOMAS P. BOSTICK

MAJOR GENERAL TODD T. SEMONITE

MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL J. WALSH

On behalf of the citizenry and local governments of the Kiski Valley, past, present and future and on behalf of the citizenry of Pennsylvania; in an attempt to have 'equal access to justice' and for the protection of our health and safety as a necessity; for the environment that sustains us through our water, vegetation, soil and air as a necessity and for the survival of our economic structures, present and future as a necessity; I make and enter for the record, the following requests as a necessity, regarding the fate of the clean-up of the Shallow Land Disposal Area.

1. That the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps of Engineers maintain total jurisdiction, control and clean-up authority of the SLDA under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) for a safe and comprehensive clean-up of all contaminated wastes without threat of giving the license back to the NRC and BWXT; and that the clean-up process resume as expeditiously as possible.
2. That we understand that as a provision of the FUSRAP program, the Corps will recoup from the responsible parties (ARCO and BWXT), the clean-up costs to reimburse the taxpayer's coffers, thus eliminating the budgetary issues.
3. That given the history of misrepresentations made regarding the SLDA by ARCO and BWXT and by the AEC/NRC agencies previously involved; that the Corps set out to evaluate the totality of the original deeded property outside the fence line for possible burials to include areas within the abandoned coal mine.
4. That because there needs to be an evaluation for the potential of state and federal violations of environmental laws, the responsible parties, ARCO and BWXT, must be removed as 'stakeholders' regarding any input or involvement in dealing with the fate or clean-up of the SLDA and replaced by representation of local government and citizens.
5. That the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) investigative branches be included and implemented each as a 'stakeholder' to ensure all legal avenues within the laws are investigated, met, negotiated and represented.
6. That there be no activity that would undermine our entire sustaining economic structures and taxed-based revenue in addition to property value depreciation.
7. That transparency is a must and a right of the people.
8. That this site be cleaned up to the ability of being a future revenue generating property without the threat of indemnifications; and if that cannot be done, that the responsible parties, ARCO and BWXT, be held accountable to at least the tax base as if all structures were still present encompassing the area of the original deeded property.
9. That the Federal Protection Service under Homeland Security remains until the project's completion.

10. That testing of the groundwater, springs, aquifers, river and vegetation are done on a regular basis.

11. That the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) has a voice as stakeholders.

12. That every precaution for public and environmental safety be constructed and implemented.

13. That it is respectfully requested of the Secretary of the Army and the Commanding General and Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers, that the tours of duty of Col William Graham and Major Robert Elliott, be extended so that this project, which has been seriously delayed by circumstances not of their doing, can progress with their valued knowledge and be well underway so that a smooth transition without further regulatory mishaps will occur upon change of command. Furthermore, if ever there has been any semblance of trust in a governmental agency from this community regarding our nuclear legacy, it is in the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps of Engineers solely because of these two officers.

Lastly, our valley was proud to serve our country as Veteran Civilian Soldiers, but because of this, we have dealt with torturing issues at the hands of the companies and the AEC/NRC, who failed to regulate, especially with public safety in mind. We have dealt with loss of life, loss of health, loss of property values, and yes, even loss of ground. We have suffered, we have cried, we have grieved and we have yelled out for help. None came until Jack Murtha wrote into law the legislation that gave the Army Corps of Engineers the jurisdiction over the SLDA site. Now then, do you leave us on the battlefield or do you fight for us and live up to your motto: "The difficult we do immediately, the impossible takes a little longer" Essayons!, Essayons!

Patricia J. Ameno, Chairperson

Citizen's Action for a Safe Environment

Anthony C. Rappo, Mayor, Leechburg, Pa.

Robert N. Konek, Manager, Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority

Kathryn Starr, Supervisor, Allegheny Twp.

Daniel Logoro, Council, Leechburg, Pa.

Rev. Gary J. Lyon, Leechburg, Pa.

Janet L. Ryan, Owner Century 21 ATR.

Dennis L. Wolfe, Supervisor, Gilpin Twp.

Paul R. Duriancik, Supervisor, Parks Twp.

James A. Budzisk, Supr. Leechburg Area School District

Tom Haley, Consultant

Anthony J. DeFilippi, President, Leechburg Borough Council

Linda A. Worth, Pres. of Lingrow Farm & Twisted Thistle

SIGNERS IN ORDER OF WRITTEN SIGNATURE

Patricia J. Ameno, Chairperson
Citizen's Action for a Safe Environment

Anthony C. Roppolo, Mayor
Leechburg, Pa.

Robert N. Kossak, Manager
Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority

Kathryn Starr, Supervisor
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Daniel Logero, Councilman
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Tom Haley, Technical Consultant
Apollo, Pa.

Anthony J. DeFilippi, council President
Leechburg, Pa.

Linda Alworth, President of Lingrow Farm & Twisted Thistle
Gilpin and Leechburg, Pa.