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ENVIRONMENT

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

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Mr. Andrew Wheeler Acting Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington D.C. 20460

## Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler:

This letter supports the nomination and inclusion of the McLouth Steel Corporation's site in Trenton, Michigan, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Priorities List. It is my understanding that EPA is currently considering adding the site to the list under the Superfund program so that a complete cleanup of the site can begin.

As you know, there is a long history of environmental violations at this site spanning several decades. In 2007, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) cited 20 different violations at the site pertaining to the marking, storage, and conditions of hazardous waste containers. Furthermore, EPA took remedial action in November 2009 after there was a reported release of a green leachate liquid to prevent the pH levels in Monguagon Creek from exceeding safe levels. These are just a few examples of the known contamination at the site.

The site sits at an important location on the Detroit River, which is both a critical source of drinking water for millions of people and an important international commercial corridor. This is why the site must be fully cleaned up, and not simply remediated, to prevent any further damage to our drinking water supply, our environment, or our economy. While protecting human health and the environment must be our first and most important goal, it is also important that any cleanup efforts result in the location being suitable for redevelopment.

All stakeholders and the surrounding communities have been working hard for many years and are committed to working towards the same goal of fully cleaning up the site and redeveloping. The State of Michigan supports the inclusion of the Trenton site on the NPL, and resolutions of support have been adopted by the City of Trenton, Township of Grosse Ile, and City of Riverview. I add my support and urge EPA to include the McLouth Steel Corporation site in Trenton on the National Priorities List, as well as continuing to pursue all available options for the full cleanup of the site.



Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our citizens and the environment for future generations must be our top priority. Thank you for your attention and work on this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need any more information.

Sincerely,

DEBBIE DINGELL Member of Congress

CC: Cathy Stepp, Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region V Heidi Grether, Director, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Kyle Stack, Mayor, City of Trenton Brian Loftus, Supervisor, Township of Grosse Ile Andrew Swift, Mayor, City of Riverview