

ERIC J.J. MASSA  
29TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3229

July 12, 2009

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Peter Grannis, Commissioner  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233-1011

Dear Commissioner Grannis:

As you know, a portion of property in the Town of Victor has been the focus of an environmental investigation by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) regarding volatile chemical solvents introduced into a gravel pit operated by Syracuse Sand & Gravel in the late 1970s. The property, known as Modock Springs, has been visited by your staff numerous times.

The Town of Victor, in conjunction with the Modock Springs Citizen Advisory Committee (MSCAC), has forwarded a proposal to the NYSDEC for your review and consideration. This proposal follows several meetings and discussions with representatives of the MSCAC and the NYSDEC. It allows residents in the investigation area to be fairly compensated through a Value Protection Plan (VPP) while ensuring that the NYSDEC will receive reimbursement from the Syracuse Sand & Gravel Company.

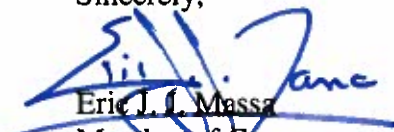
Michael Annechino, Chairman of the MSCAC and Jack Marren, Supervisor for the Town of Victor, have requested a personal meeting with Governor Paterson to discuss this issue, ask for his support of the MSCAC's request of NYSDEC, and for financial support from the State to partially fund the Town's VPP.

Currently, the Task Force is requesting \$250,000 to seed the Town's VPP to help homeowners maintain their financial stakes in property affected by this situation. The current operators of the site have agreed to contribute \$850,000 over 15 years to fully fund the VPP.

It is my hope that the NYSDEC will recognize this unique opportunity to resolve an issue that has existed for over a decade and needs a creative and well thought-out solution such as this proposal. This matter is of the utmost importance to my constituents and I ask that every consideration be given to their request.

Your immediate attention to this matter is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Eric J. J. Massa  
Member of Congress