



TOWN OF  
PETERBOROUGH

ADMINISTRATION

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January 31, 2018

The Honorable E. Scott Pruitt, Administrator  
Office of the Administrator, Mail Code 1101  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: South Well Superfund Site, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

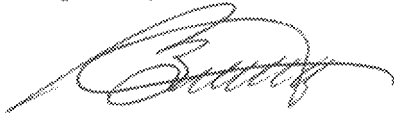
I am writing in my capacity as Town Administrator for the Town of Peterborough, New Hampshire to request the assistance of the US EPA in addressing vital economic development and water supply needs of our Town in a manner that also supports our largest employer, New Hampshire Ball Bearings, Inc. (NHBB). Consistent with the specifics and spirit of the recommendations of the US EPA's 2017 Superfund Task Force, the Town has embarked upon an effort to develop a new municipal water supply as an alternative to the South Well, which was taken out of service in 1982 due to contamination from the NHBB facility. The Town seeks the leadership support and collaboration of US EPA and the other involved parties to enable some of the resources that NHBB would otherwise spend to address the long-term cleanup of the South Well to instead be directed toward developing an alternative municipal water supply in the near-term.

Following the discovery of contamination in the South Well it was taken out of service and the site was placed on the CERCLA National Priorities List in 1984. NHBB has cooperated actively with the US EPA and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) on investigation and remediation of the site. A pump-and-treat remedy was conducted from 1993 to 2010 and additional remedies have been applied, but restoration of the South Well appears no closer. To date, NHBB has expended over \$33 Million to address the site. Whether or not the aquifer can ever be fully remediated, the Town does not wish to reactivate the South Well as part of its public water supply system in the foreseeable future, but instead seeks to promptly develop an alternative water supply well-field at the southerly end of the Town in order to provide a better balanced public water system that will meet the Town's near-term and long-term water supply and economic development needs. From a financial perspective, the Town will only be able to achieve its goal if the remediation approach at the South Well Site can be modified to reduce the costs that NHBB would otherwise incur and free up those resources to be contributed to development of the alternative water supply.

The Town is very pleased that two productive meetings have already been held among representatives of USEPA Region 1, the NHDES, NHBB and the Town at which this concept has been explored. The Town requests the full support and encouragement of EPA's leadership at the national and regional levels

for a cooperative and collaborative process that can build on the good work already done and promptly find a path forward that meets the Town's vital needs while also ensuring that the interests of NHBB, USEPA and NHDES are all met consistent with the nationwide approach and priorities for Superfund reform.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodney Bartlett", written in a cursive style.

Rodney Bartlett  
Town Administrator

CC: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, J.D., Regional Administrator, EPA Region 1  
Albert Kelly, Senior Advisor to EPA Administrator Pruitt  
The Honorable Christopher Sununu, Governor, State of New Hampshire  
Robert Scott, Commissioner, NHDES  
Christopher M. Rawnsley, Director of Safety, Environment and Sustainability, NHBB  
Tyler Ward, Chair, Town of Peterborough Select Board