

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE REDESIGNATION BY THE UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA) OF THE FORD WASTE
DISPOSAL SITE IN UPPER RINGWOOD TO THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST
AS A SUPERFUND SITE

WHEREAS, the Ford Motor Company dumped millions of gallons of toxic paint sludge and other industrial waste in Upper Ringwood containing lead, arsenic, chromium, cadmium, Freon, and benzene, which have been linked to kidney disease, abnormal brain-cell development, skin lesion, birth defects and different types of cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Ford Motor Company admits to being the responsible party; and

WHEREAS, despite four US EPA supervised clean-ups, the site is still riddled with massive amounts of paint sludge and other materials; and

WHEREAS, despite obvious contamination in mine shafts, in state parkland, in and along streambeds and on people's property, the site was de-listed from the Superfund Priority Site list; and

WHEREAS, although it appears that the pollution has not reached the nearby Wanaque Reservoir, which provides drinking water to 2.5 million New Jersey residents, there exists that potential; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Ringwood rely on groundwater wells as their primary source of water, and any contamination of the groundwater could have an adverse effect on our community; and

WHEREAS, the USEPA is making demands on the Borough of Ringwood to share in the cost of the investigation and clean-up; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ringwood and its residents are victims of this dumping and contamination, and in no way should be held responsible for any clean-up costs; and

WHEREAS, the principle that the polluter should pay for the clean-up of toxic sites should prevail;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ringwood as follows:

1. That the USEPA take all appropriate steps to immediately re-list the Ford waste disposal site in Upper Ringwood on the National Priorities List (NPL) as a Superfund Site.

2. That the USEPA demand that Ford bear 100% of the investigation and clean-up cost and that the Borough of Ringwood be held harmless for any such expenses.
3. That the U.S. Attorney for New Jersey conduct an investigation of the dumping and the clean-up activities.
4. That our Federal and State representatives support the Borough of Ringwood in this matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to President George W. Bush; EPA Administrator Steven Johnson; EPA Region 2 Administrator Alan Steinberg; U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg; U. S. Senator Jon Corzine; U.S. Congressman Scott Garrett and the entire New Jersey delegation; Acting Governor Richard Codey; Senator Henry McNamara, Assemblyman David Russo; Assemblyman Kevin O'Toole; DEP Commissioner Bradley Campbell; Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders; and the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

WENKE TAULE, MAYOR

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Municipal Council of the Borough of Ringwood at its Business Meeting of October 11, 2005.

KELLEY A. ROHDE, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

Council Member	Motion	Second	Aye s	Nays	Abstai n	Absen t
Atlas	X		X			
Heck		X	X			
Mac Allen						X
Marsala			X			
Taukus			X			
O'Hearn			X			
Taule			X			

