



For Immediate Release
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Joint Statement By Mayor Harkins, Save Stratford Leader Erin Holroyd On EPA Proposed Raymark Remediation Plan For Operable Unit #6

STRATFORD— Mayor John A. Harkins today said that while he is encouraged that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will respect state law limiting consolidation of Raymark waste in its recently released remediation plan for Operable Unit (OU) #6, he remains concerned regarding the federal government's failure to provide a comprehensive plan and cost estimate for the complete remediation of all contaminated properties in Stratford.

“In a vacuum, the EPA’s proposed plan for the Beacon Point, East Broadway, and Third Avenue properties is a positive step toward dealing with Raymark waste in a manner consistent with the community’s wishes,” said Mayor Harkins. “While I cannot explicitly endorse this plan until it is fully explained at the public information session on September 15, I am encouraged by what I know thus far. However, I remain steadfast in my demand that the federal government provide a comprehensive plan and cost estimates for the remediation of all properties in Stratford that includes the removal of a substantial amount of waste to an out of town disposal facility. Residents, led by Save Stratford, have shown that they are willing to compromise and work with state and federal officials in good faith by agreeing to some consolidation. However, we need a sign that the government is willing to reciprocate by meeting us half way.”

The EPA will be holding a public informational session to explain the proposed plan on September 15, 2010 from 7PM to 9PM at the Stratford High School library. Public comment will be entertained by the EPA at a hearing scheduled for October 6, 2010 in Town Council Chambers.

Erin Holroyd, co-founder of Save Stratford, said that residents should be provided a complete plan for remediation of all Raymark waste in order to gain some assurance of federal commitment to the project. “We need to understand the cost and scope of what we’re fighting for,” said Holroyd. “It is difficult for the residents impacted by Raymark waste to trust that our wishes will not be steamrolled by the EPA when we do not have a starting point for discussion. In

addition, we need that master plan to provide for the removal of at least some of the waste from Stratford. The piecemeal approach we have been forced to live with thus far provides no such assurance, and Save Stratford is pleased that Mayor Harkins continues his long-standing support of our position on these points. That said, I appreciate that the EPA's proposal for these particular properties respects the law we worked with Mayor Harkins to pass prohibiting the consolidation of more the 1000 cubic yards of waste."

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