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December 14, 2015

Daniel Walsh, PhD
City of New York Office of Environmental Remediation
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: New York City EPA Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund Grant Applications

Dear Dr. Walsh,

The Bronx Council for Environmental Quality, (BCEQ) is a non-profit membership organization located in New York City's only mainland borough—The Bronx. We are a diverse collection of individuals all seeking to leave our great-grandchildren better air, land, and water quality than we have at present.

The New York State Brownfield Areas Opportunity (BOA) Program is the redevelopment planning arm of the Superfund/Brownfield Law. We've received a New York BOA award in the amount of \$109,877 for a Step 1: Pre-Nomination Study and an award in the amount of \$355,230 for a Step 2: Nomination Study. The BOA along the Harlem River came out of BCEQ's previous Harlem River conferences and was developed in partnership with broad community participation. The Harlem River and its neighboring communities are poised for a long-overdue revival.

The strategic sites along the Harlem River identified through the BOA program are considered Preferred Community Development sites by the city, and would be eligible to receive assessment support funded through the EPA grant. BCEQ supports this grant application and any sites addressed by the EPA grant in the Harlem River BOA will leverage the planning funds already awarded by the State. Should this program come to fruition, we will help the city promote successful investigations funded by the program in the Bronx. We will also seek to find tenants for the redeveloped sites as appropriate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dart Westphal

Dart Westphal

Karen Argenti

Karen Argenti

BCEQ Water Committee Chairs