

R. LAUTENBERG  
NEW JERSEY

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3002

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
BUDGET  
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS  
SMALL BUSINESS  
HELSINKI COMMISSION

April 26, 1994

Mr. Ivan Selin  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

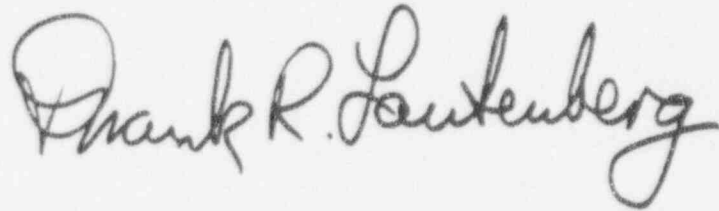
Dear Mr. Selin:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from Terry Ragone and residents of Newfield concerning the Shieldalloy Superfund site.

Please review the concerns raised by the residents and advise me on your findings in the matter. Please direct your response to Andrea Edwards at my Barrington office.

Thank you for your assistance in this case.

Sincerely,



FRL:ae  
Enclosure

Y TO

9406090117 940531  
PDR ADCK 0400894B  
C PDR

36 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3002  
(202) 224-4744

ONE GATEWAY CENTER SUITE 1001  
NEWARK, NJ 07102-5311  
(201) 645-3030

BARRINGTON COMMONS  
208 WHITE HORSE PINE  
SUITES 18-19  
BARRINGTON, NJ 08007-1322  
(609) 757-5353

**TERRY FOX RAGONE**

**P.O. BOX 605  
NEWFIELD, NEW JERSEY 08344  
609 697-9764**

*21 APR 18 PM 4:44*

March 12, 1994

Frank Lautenberg  
United States Senator  
717 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Senator Lautenberg,

Because of your excellent voting record in the Senate on environmental issues we are writing you about an urgent environmental situation in our town Newfield Borough, Gloucester County, New Jersey.

Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation, manufacturer of specialty ferro alloys, began operations in Newfield in 1955. The company operates under a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to process ores containing radioactive materials such as uranium, thorium and their associated decay products. The ores are melted at high temperatures to produce metal alloys. As a result of the smelting process slag and dust are produced which are stored in slag and dust piles out-of-doors on the property contiguous to residential areas.

In September 1993 Shieldalloy and their parent company Metallurg, Inc. of New York filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and as a part of that proceeding the company must determine its outstanding liabilities. The largest liability of the Newfield plant is considered to be the radioactive waste of slag and dust. At present, Shieldalloy claims that offsite disposal at a licensed nuclear waste site in Utah would be too costly, and if forced to ship it offsite, they have threatened to abandon the Newfield plant. So, they are seeking a decommissioning plan which will leave the 1.2 million cubic yards of waste on site in Newfield. As a result the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is currently preparing to do an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) which will assess this variance to the normal regulation for decommissioning, along with other options.

In addition Shieldalloy's processing of non-radioactive materials on this site has resulted in chemical contamination in the ground water. In 1972 the Borough's wells were discovered to be contaminated and had to be relocated. Today the site is #42 on the Superfund Priorities List of the Environmental Protection Agency. The chromium and other contamination has resulted in a class action suit against Shieldalloy by residents

of Vineland whose wells were poisoned. This plant sits directly over the Cohansey Aquifer which is ground water for a large area of South New Jersey. The Hudson Branch which is now contaminated feeds into the Maurice River, a pristine river, recently to come under Federal protection as "wild and scenic".

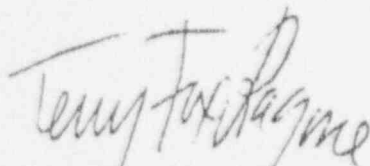
Your administration now has the opportunity to undo years of neglect under Republican rule and ineffective legislation. Here is a good place to start to make polluters responsible for their reckless disregard of regulations and community. Set a precedent in our town. Restore confidence in the kind of working small town community so often held up by politicians as exemplary of the ideal American community of family and neighbors.

We have enclosed a description of this situation from the Federal Register which will give you a quick background and scope of the EIS by the NRC. We collected 91 signatures on letters (in one week's time) which we sent to the NRC by the 1/15/94 deadline. Over 85% of these townspeople favored complete clean-up of the site. In addition we recently collected over 240 signatures (20% of the Borough's population) on a petition to the Borough government to adopt a resolution that Newfield may not be a permanent or temporary waste site for radioactive or chemical waste. More and more, we are discovering that a majority of residents of Newfield want responsible action but do not know how to achieve it. We wish earnestly to be heard, and to be included in the EIS process.

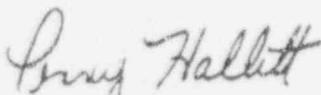
We need your help.

We look forward to your assistance. Thank you for your consideration.

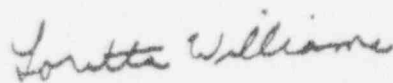
Sincerely,



Terry Fox Ragone



Penny Hallitt



Loretta Williams

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SYSTEM  
DOCUMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

This checklist is to be submitted with each document (or group of Qs/As) sent for filing into the CCS.

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) Letter to Sen Lautenberg
2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT  Correspondence  Hearings (Qs/As)
3. DOCUMENT CONTROL  Sensitive (NRC Only)  Non-sensitive
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE and SUBCOMMITTEES (if applicable)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Congressional Committee  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Subcommittee
5. SUBJECT CODES  
(a) \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_  
(c) \_\_\_\_\_
6. SOURCE OF DOCUMENTS  
(a)  5520 (document name \_\_\_\_\_)  
(b)  Scan (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Attachments  
(d) \_\_\_\_\_ Rekey (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
7. SYSTEM LOG DATES  
(a) 10/14/84 Date OCA sent document to CCS  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ Date CCS receives document  
(c) \_\_\_\_\_ Date returned to OCA for additional information  
(d) \_\_\_\_\_ Date resubmitted by OCA to CCS  
(e) \_\_\_\_\_ Date entered into CCS by \_\_\_\_\_  
(f) \_\_\_\_\_ Date OCA notified that document is in CCS
8. COMMENTS

090021