



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
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REPRESENTATIVE PETER F. VILLANO
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August 29, 2006

Honorable Richard Blumenthal
Connecticut Attorney General
55 Elm Street, Suite 1
Hartford, CT 06106-1774

Dear Mr. *Richard* Blumenthal:

I am formally requesting an opinion as to the responsibility of the Department of Environmental Protection, under our statutes and regulations, for assuming the financial cost of repairing homes sitting on contaminated soil in Hamden's Newhall neighborhood.

DEP staff indicate that the department will pay for remediation of the underlying contaminants but not for repairs that will reverse deterioration and assure the integrity of these family homes. Nor is the Olin Corporation said to be liable for repairs, only for clean-up. This is not good public policy. The residents' health and property values are at risk through no fault of their own.

A prompt reply would be deeply appreciated by the residents since the 60-day public comment period on the adequacy of the remediation plan announced by Commissioner McCarthy on August 17 has begun. We need to delineate specific areas of responsibility before the community can respond.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter
Peter F. Villano
State Representative