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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2012

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write regarding ongoing soil testing and possible environmental remediation efforts in and around Clyde, Ohio. As you know, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has undertaken environmental assessments at fourteen sites originally identified in the "Childhood Cancer among Residents of Eastern Sandusky County" report published jointly by the Ohio EPA and the Ohio Department of Health.

It is my understanding that the findings of the site assessments were reported to EPA on September 28, 2012, and were made available on Region 5's Eastern Sandusky County Assessment Project webpage in late October. Yet, community members were not informed of this report until mid-November. In light of the fact that the report indicated the discovery of carcinogenic polychlorinated biphenyls in soil samples, this oversight is particularly unsettling. I appreciate the diligence EPA has shown on this issue, but am disappointed that these results were not publicized and community members were not made aware of these findings as soon as they were publicly available.

Recent newspaper reports have also indicated there is a dispute between the former and current property owners regarding site access. As it relates to EPA's commitment to oversee additional testing at the site, I urge the agency to work with all stakeholders to ensure that further testing be undertaken as soon as possible.

For too long community members have been searching for answers to the tragic loss of their loved ones—particularly the deaths of a troublingly high number of children to pediatric cancers. We owe it these families to accelerate testing and possible cleanup.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

Cc: Susan Hedman, Administrator, U.S. EPA Region V

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