

Volume: I  
Pages: 1-24

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HOUSATONIC RIVER PROJECT  
COMMENTS RECEIVED BY VOICEMAIL

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(Transcript prepared from Audio Recording)  
Reporter: Raymond F. Catuogno, Jr.

1 **Carolyn Lapalm:**

2 Hello. My name is Carolyn Lapalm. I live at 140  
3 Housatonic Street, Apartment 35, Lenox,  
4 Massachusetts. 01240 is the zip. 413 551-7011 is my  
5 telephone number. Absolutely no dumping of General  
6 Electric's disgraceful lack of attempts to clean up  
7 the Housatonic River. And not here in Lenox. They  
8 have been let off the hook time, after time, after  
9 time again. They made a lot of money in Pittsfield.  
10 They've destroyed the Housatonic River and our  
11 quality of life. They should be held to the  
12 strictest punishment they can have. And they should  
13 continue treating the Housatonic River. Absolutely  
14 no dump to bail those despicable people out.  
15 Absolutely no, no, no.

16

17

18 **Eugene Luca:**

19 My name is Eugene Luca, L-u-c-a. My address is  
20 26 East Street, Stockbridge, Massachusetts 01262.  
21 I'm calling to voice my dismay about this proposed  
22 dump that will be built in the Lenox  
23 Dale/Lee/Stockbridge area. I'm certain there are  
24 other areas in Western Massachusetts that are much  
25 less populated, a little bit further north, and

1 | probably a little bit further east that would work  
2 | just fine. This is a populated area year-round and  
3 | in summertime we have a tremendous amount of tourism  
4 | here. So I hope that you plan to listen to the  
5 | people who had no voice in any of this until we found  
6 | out about it. So please move this dump somewhere  
7 | else. The phone number here 413 298-7246. Thank  
8 | you.

9  
10

11 | **Nancy Cicchetti:**

12 |       Good morning. My name is Nancy, N-a-n-c-y,  
13 | Cicchetti, C-i-c-c-h-e-t-t-i. And I own a home here  
14 | in Great Barrington at 38 Avery, A-v-e-r-y Lane. I  
15 | see that General Electric wants to build, or dump I  
16 | should say, PCBs in the river again. And I just  
17 | can't imagine how you would allow that to happen. We  
18 | all know the toxic effects of these chemicals on our  
19 | water, our children. It's near our schools. Please  
20 | don't allow this to happen. The Housatonic River has  
21 | been cleaned up quite a bit. Let's keep it that way  
22 | and improve it, not go backwards. So I would  
23 | appreciate you adding this to your list of issues for  
24 | the river. Thank you.

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**Jennifer Downs:**

Hi. My name is Jennifer Downs, D-o-w-n-s. I live at 80 Howard Street in Pittsfield. My public comment is one, absolutely no dump in Berkshire County. I attended one of the public meetings here in town in March of 2020, and my question wasn't answered how we can have assurances about frost heaving not potentially making the PCB dump site ineffective. And also we keep having increasing earthquakes throughout the region. So I think that's something that we need to address, that because of just the regional seismic activity and the level of frost heaving that happens every year it's just not a good place to have a dump that's directly seeping into our groundwater. But I also want to say that like, something needs to happen soon on this river cleanup. We had another drought. This is the second year in a row that we've had a drought, and the river itself was extremely receded. And as it was explained in the public meeting and in the documents, the level of PCB exposure that comes to air when that water level recedes is -- I feel like we're only going to get worse in this issue. So this needs to be resolved quickly. People need an assurance that

1 | the cleanup is going to happen quickly and  
2 | effectively, and not completely destroy their home  
3 | values. And I don't know. I really just oppose the  
4 | idea of the dump staying here. And for long-term  
5 | health I feel like this -- these people here, like  
6 | I'm not from here, but this is the most politically  
7 | apathetic place I've ever lived and I really do  
8 | believe that people were harmed by GE emotionally,  
9 | financially, now environmentally. And it's really  
10 | done something to the people here who feel that they  
11 | have grown up here, they've put in the work, they  
12 | worked for this company, they worked for their homes,  
13 | and they've witnessed their family members who worked  
14 | for GE die horrific cancerous deaths. Like there's  
15 | just -- there's so much hurt from this corporation.  
16 | And they have multi-billion-dollar profits. It just  
17 | -- it makes absolutely no sense why the most advanced  
18 | -- right, they bring good things to light, right?  
19 | They have the capability. They have the technology.  
20 | They have the funding to really get into some  
21 | innovative environmental damage solutions. And this  
22 | is -- this is being eked out over the lives of people  
23 | who live here, who want their grandchildren here. So  
24 | no dump, but something's got to give. This has got  
25 | to move forward. And it shouldn't take -- I don't

1 know. Something's got to move forward because we  
2 need a plan in place because if Trump has another  
3 four years I don't even know if the EPA is going to  
4 have the funding to do what they need to do. So  
5 thank you. Have a great day. Bye.

6

7

8 **Magdev Lupsis:**

9 This is Magdev Lupsis, a registered voter  
10 residing in Berkshire County. I would like to say  
11 how outraged we are about what is going -- what is  
12 being planned for Housatonic River. We think it's  
13 outrageous to do -- dump all that residue near the  
14 town of Lee, near homes, wells, and the flatlands  
15 that will be affected for many many, years to come.  
16 My husband whose name is Murray Lefkowitz (phonetic),  
17 also a registered voter in Berkshire County in the  
18 town of Lenox also agrees with me. He's having a  
19 problem with expressing his speech right now, but he  
20 totally agrees with me that this is an outrageous  
21 situation and we would like to see it not to happen  
22 to our river, and to our area, and to our neighbors.  
23 Thank you very much.

24

25

1 **Anne Coleman:**

2 Yes, I'm responding to the PCB dump in Lee that  
3 is proposed. This is Anne Coleman on Summer Street  
4 in Lee. And I am outraged that we do not have the  
5 opportunity to vote or present our views in public on  
6 this. There's already been enough damage done in  
7 Pittsfield over the years, for 50 or more years, 70  
8 years or more with GE. And we have too many schools  
9 and houses next to this dump in Lee that is proposed.  
10 And I'm outraged that we cannot do more community  
11 awareness on this, and public display of opinions and  
12 attitudes, and have a chance to vote on this. Thank  
13 you very much.

14

15

16 **Aleta Frectman:**

17 I have had enough. Progress is not our most  
18 important product. My name is Aleta Frectman, and I  
19 live at 899 Main Street, Great Barrington,  
20 Massachusetts. I think that General Electric has  
21 polluted our environment for their own profit for  
22 enough years. It's time to stop. I have had enough.  
23 Progress is not our most important product. The most  
24 important thing in our universe are our children.  
25 Protect them from your poison. Thank you.

1

2

3 **Paula Bradley:**

4 Hi. My name is Paula Bradley, and I'm located at  
5 13 Mcdarby Road in Lee, Massachusetts. And I'm  
6 calling to voice my opposition to the permit  
7 modification for the General Electric toxic PCB dump.  
8 I think it's an extremely bad idea. And we do not  
9 want toxic things -- toxic materials in our  
10 neighborhood. So that's all I have to say. Thank  
11 you.

12

13

14 **Dan Stern:**

15 My name is Dan Stern. I live at 70 Birchwood  
16 Lane in Lenox, Massachusetts. I'm calling regarding  
17 the poisonous dumps that GE will be creating in the  
18 Berkshires. I'm absolutely against them. I  
19 represent many other neighbors who feel strongly that  
20 this is unacceptable. GE's decisions are guided by  
21 saving money, not lives, or lifestyle. It will ruin  
22 the Berkshires. And this needs to be changed  
23 immediately. You guys need to figure a way to shift  
24 this safely out of state to a place that doesn't  
25 hinder the lifestyle of any communities wherever you

1 | move it. And honestly, we're just disgusted that  
2 | we're even at this stage of considerations. Make  
3 | this right.

4 |

5 |

6 | **Danielle Stern:**

7 | Hello. My name is Danielle Stern. I live in  
8 | Lenox, Massachusetts on 70 Birchwood Lane. I am  
9 | calling to -- I'm calling to put on the record  
10 | myself, and my neighbors' fear, disgust and absolute  
11 | -- absolute feelings about not having the dump be in  
12 | our backyard right near the toxic site of the river.  
13 | I hope that you guys can come up with a better  
14 | solution than putting a PCB dump right a thousand,  
15 | 1,100 feet directly above the river. My name again  
16 | is Danielle Stern. I live in Lenox. And I'm hoping  
17 | that you will understand that we don't want a PCB  
18 | dump in our backyard. Thank you.

19 |

20 |

21 | **Jeffrey Kotchman:**

22 | Good morning. My name is Jeffrey Kotchman. I  
23 | live in Lenox, Massachusetts at 70 West Street.  
24 | Disturbed about your PCB dump. I find that GE has  
25 | done enough to destroy our water, Housatonic River --

1 | where we cannot eat the fish, and some of the land in  
2 | Pittsfield. I feel there must be some better way to  
3 | mitigate this problem. I think a PCB dump that  
4 | transports PCBs in trucks has the potential to  
5 | disrupt the air in the area, the ground around the  
6 | roads. And the PCB dump will leak eventually. We  
7 | have plenty of rainstorms. And that will contaminate  
8 | the groundwater and make it undrinkable through  
9 | wells. Your consideration is appreciated. Thank  
10 | you.

11  
12

13 | **Fay Parker:**

14 |       Good morning. This is Fay Parker at 411 Walker  
15 | Street in Lenox. And I'm calling to please do not  
16 | build a PCB dump in Lenox Dale or Lee. Thank you  
17 | very much. Please do not build a dump of PCBs at  
18 | Lenox Dale and Lee. Thank you. Bye-bye.

19  
20

21 | **Ralph Baker:**

22 |       This is Ralph Baker of 109 Housatonic Street,  
23 | Lenox, the old schoolhouse, Apartment 103. I mean of  
24 | all the lamebrained ideas. You know goes on with  
25 | (inaudible) track. It's -- you know, it's the

1 concert doesn't make it, you know Tanglewood. I  
2 mean, you know you couldn't go to a hundred other  
3 places a little bit north with that thing?

4

5

6 **Linda Paradiso:**

7 Hello. This is Linda Paradiso. I am a resident  
8 at 880 East Street, Lee, Mass. 01238, Apartment 200C.  
9 And I am calling to let you know that I am completely  
10 and totally opposed to the method of PCB dumping for  
11 the GE site cleanup of the Housatonic River gravel  
12 pit. I completely oppose this and I want my --

13

14

15 **William Bresnick:**

16 Hi. My name is William Bresnick. I live in  
17 Pittsfield, Mass. I am a former resident of Lee, and  
18 a concerned tax-paying citizen. And I do not want a  
19 PCB dump in Berkshire County that's going to lower  
20 all our home values. It's detrimental to everybody's  
21 health, to the water supply in the town of Lee, to  
22 the tourism industry in Berkshire County and the  
23 state just in general. It's not a good idea. Again,  
24 I am against this. Address is 115 Broadview Terrace  
25 in Pittsfield 01201. The phone number 413 329-3678.

1 Thank you.

2

3

4 **Barry Goldman:**

5 Yes. Hi. My name is Barry Goldman. I'm a  
6 member of the October Mountain Residential Group.  
7 And we are very much opposed to the Housatonic dump  
8 which would leak into water supply and river. So --  
9 and by the way, I mean this is a very active  
10 community, and we have a location very close to  
11 Tanglewood and Jacob's Pillow. This would ruin our  
12 whole relationship with this great community. And I  
13 feel that we would do a lot of damage to this area.  
14 And people from New York and Massachusetts may not  
15 come here anymore. I know myself I would be very  
16 much against it. So thank you for your time. And I  
17 hope that everything goes well, but I think we should  
18 remove any possibilities of having a dump here.  
19 Thank you.

20

21

22 **Laura Bergman:**

23 Hello. This is Laura Bergman and my husband John  
24 Bergman. We currently reside at 12 Woods Lane in  
25 Lenox, Massachusetts 01240. The reason I'm calling

1 | is we are absolutely opposed and appalled to the dump  
2 | that's being proposed located at the base of Lenox  
3 | Dale. We feel that it is -- it is beyond our  
4 | understanding. Nor is it environmentally safe to  
5 | have a dump located in our vicinity. We live in our  
6 | location known as (inaudible) which is supposed to  
7 | have been a wellness resort. And I cannot see how  
8 | this could a wellness resort or a wellness area with  
9 | the dump by GE located down the street within a few  
10 | blocks quite frankly. We're asking that this dump  
11 | site be moved to a place that has been designated on  
12 | this earth completely for PCB toxic dumps and not a  
13 | place where children, or families, or animals, or  
14 | nature is located that is within a proximity of a  
15 | community. Long-term studies have shown that the PCB  
16 | dumps cause genetic mutations along with many, many  
17 | other diseases. We're asking for this not to be  
18 | done. We're opposed to it completely and want to  
19 | make our opinions known. Thank you very much.

20

21

22 **David Walker:**

23 | Hi. This is David Walker from Lee,  
24 | Massachusetts. I'm calling to express my concern for  
25 | the proposed PCB dump in Lee. I'm very concerned

1 | that this is being rammed through with the EPA and  
2 | GE. I don't believe that this should happen. I  
3 | don't want this dump in the town of Lee. And I know  
4 | many of my friends and family do not want this dump.  
5 | Our town representatives obviously were involved in  
6 | this decision. However, there was no vote from the  
7 | residents of Lee, which I feel strongly there should  
8 | be. And I think if you -- if there was a vote in Lee  
9 | for yea or nay on a PCB dump I would guarantee you  
10 | that the majority of the residents in Lee do not want  
11 | this. So I think the EPA should do their job and do  
12 | the right thing for this community. And the right  
13 | thing is not to have a PCB dump here. And I don't  
14 | believe that's a good long-term solution or even  
15 | short-term solution. I believe there's -- that PCBs  
16 | need to be eradicated somehow, someway. And I  
17 | believe the technology, if it's not out there today,  
18 | we will have it at some point. But I think these  
19 | things need to be cleaned up by GE? And I don't  
20 | think the EPA should be making these decisions for  
21 | this community. So please do not allow this to  
22 | happen and do your jobs. Thank you.

23

24

25 | **Gail Marlow:**

1           Yes. Hi. My name is Gail Marlow. I live on  
2 October Mountain in Lee. And I'm very, very upset  
3 about what's happening with Lee becoming a potential  
4 toxic waste dump. And I just wanted to voice my  
5 upset with it. Okay. So thank you so much. If you  
6 need to reach me, I'm at 954 661-2762. Thanks so  
7 much. Bye-bye.

8

9

10 **Michael McDermitt:**

11           My name is Michael McDermitt, and I live at 110  
12 Hartwood Road in Lee, Massachusetts. And I would  
13 prefer nothing be done with the Housatonic River.  
14 Leave the PCBs where they are and allow the river to  
15 not be disturbed. Good day.

16

17

18 **Unknown caller:**

19           I'm calling about the PCB dump at Lee. My wife  
20 and I live at 880 East Street. And we are vehemently  
21 opposed to this. And I don't know how else to leave  
22 my feelings. But I appreciate you taking the call.  
23 Goodbye.

24

25

1 **Terry McDermitt:**

2 Hi. This is Terry McDermitt calling from  
3 Hartwood Road in Lee, Massachusetts. And I'm against  
4 the dump that's supposed to be going in in Lenox Dale  
5 and Lee. I would rather see nothing done with the  
6 river than this big dump put in Lee and Lenox. Okay.  
7 That's my comment. Okay. Bye.

8

9

10 **Jessica Attoumo:**

11 Hi. My name is Jessica Attoumo. My last name is  
12 spelled A-t-t-o-u-m-o. I live at 27 Lawton Street in  
13 Lenox Dale. I'm calling because I do not want a PCB  
14 dump in Lenox Dale. I did not move my family here to  
15 live next to a PCB dump. This was not addressed with  
16 the people that live here. We had no say. You  
17 cannot convince me that this dump won't leak, and  
18 that my daughter will have to deal with the  
19 aftereffects of this later on down the line. And you  
20 can't convince me that this isn't going to harm us.  
21 Thank you very much. Bye-bye.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Raymond F. Catuogno, Jr., do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript, prepared to the best of my ability, of an audio recording provided to me in the matter of Housatonic River Project.

I, Raymond F. Catuogno, Jr., further certify that the foregoing is in compliance with the Administrative Office of the Trial Court Directive on Transcript Format.

I, Raymond F. Catuogno, Jr., further certify that I neither am counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this hearing was taken, and further that I am not financially nor otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.



Raymond F. Catuogno, Jr.

September 21, 2020

9 Hammond Street

Worcester, MA 01610

raycatuogno@realtimereorting.net

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0 ----- 1  
 01201 ----- 11  
 01238 ----- 11  
 01240 ----- 12  
 01262 ----- 2  
 01610 ----- 17

**1**

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**2**

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 25 ----- 1  
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 27 ----- 16  
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**4**

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