

JON RUNYAN  
3RD DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY



COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES  
  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ASSISTANCE  
AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS  
  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE,  
OCEANS AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3003  
September 6, 2012

Ms. Judith A. Enck  
Regional Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 2  
290 Broadway  
New York, NY 10007-1823

Dear Regional Administrator Enck,

We write to request that you work with your regional partners to amend the "Floatables Action Plan" for the New York/New Jersey Bight. As you are aware medical waste washed up on Long Beach Island, New Jersey in May and June, and on Staten Island and Long Island, New York in July.

The "Floatables Action Plan" may have been successful in the past but this summer it has clearly failed to keep our beaches free of medical waste. As you are aware the tourism industry in New York and New Jersey is a multi-billion dollar industry, and every day a beach closes down the local economy endures a hardship. With national unemployment remaining over 8% our coastal economies cannot afford any additional beach closures due to preventable events such as these.

We understand that this plan involves many partners including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP), Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC), and the Interstate Environmental Commission (IEC). We encourage the EPA to work with all of its partners in amending this plan in order to ensure better outcomes. This is not the time to place blame but rather a time to assess what went wrong, and make changes to prevent this from happening again in the future.

We thank you for working to keep our beaches safe for the enjoyment of all our constituents and look forward to working with you in amending this plan. If you have any questions please contact Jeff Brabant in Congressman Runyan's office at 202-225-4765, or Blaire Bartlett in Congressman Grimm's office at 202-2253371.

Sincerely,

Jon Runyan  
Member of Congress

Sincerely,

Michael Grimm  
Member of Congress

MT. LAUREL  
4167 CHURCH ROAD  
MT. LAUREL, NJ 08054  
(856) 780-6436  
(856) 780-6439 (FAX)

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
1239 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-4765  
(202) 225-0778 (FAX)

Runyan.House.Gov

TOMS RIVER  
600 MULE ROAD  
TOMS RIVER, NJ 08757  
(732) 279-6013  
(732) 279-6062 (FAX)