



Borough of Lansdowne

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Jayne C. Young
Mayor
Craig Totaro
Borough Manager

February 11, 2009

Linda Burlington
NOAA Office of General Counsel for Natural Resources
Room 15107
1315 East-West Highway,
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Re: Draft DARP and Environmental Assessment for Athos I Oil Spill

Dear Ms. Burlington:

Lansdowne Borough is pleased to write this letter in support of the Darby Creek dam removals and habitat restoration project as part of the Athos I Oil Spill remedy. This project, managed by American Rivers, a nationally recognized leader in conservation and restoration practices, will greatly benefit the ecosystem of this tributary of the Delaware River and the local communities through which it runs. Locally, it is widely understood that these structures have contributed to flooding during heavy rains and contribute to the degradation of natural ecosystems and fish habitats.

One of the 3 dams is located in Lansdowne Borough, specifically, in Hoffman Park. The Borough has done a great deal of work attending to the restoration of and civilian access to the stream banks of the Darby Creek. Removal of the dam located in the Darby Creek at Hoffman Park will advance these efforts and prepare the environment for future rehabilitation efforts.

Lansdowne Borough is confident in the technical capacity of the American Rivers organization to manage this project. To date they have demonstrated diligence and hard work in this multi-site project and we look forward to working with them in the future through the dam removal process.

Sincerely,

Craig Totaro
Borough Manager