



CITY OF PLAINVIEW

City of Plainview
PO Box 117
Plainview AR 72857

Phone: 1-501-272-4320
Fax: 1-501-272-2018
Email: pvviewfund@arkwest.com

Myron Knudson
Director, Superfund Division
US EPA, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Mail Code 6SF-PC
Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Myron,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Plainview, Arkansas to express our community's deepest appreciation for the contributions that Marc Weinreich and Greenfield Environmental Trust Group (GETG) have made to our community in connection with the redevelopment of the Mountain Pine Pressure Treating Superfund Site (the "MPPT Site").

Without Marc's expertise, creativity, professionalism, and commitment to solving a host of seemingly insurmountable roadblocks, the City of Plainview would, today, be forced to think very differently about its future and indeed, its existence. From the outset, Marc took control of the project and worked with precision to create the conditions for project success. Most importantly, Marc's diverse skills enabled him to connect immediately with our small rural community and we with him.

Marc's activities are too numerous to adequately list here, but I thought I should share with you a few of the critical project tasks that Marc and GETG identified and accomplished. Marc expanded our stakeholder base and then systematically moved key stakeholders from project disbelief to strong and enthusiastic project allies. Marc helped us to establish an area-wide Chamber of Commerce to support the project and to enhance community and business outreach. Marc facilitated numerous public and multi-stakeholder discussions and meetings both in person and by telephone, working easily with state and federal RPM's, economic development coordinators, members of the state and US congressional delegations, and MPPT Site neighbors. He understood local, regional and state market and other conditions and led the design and development of a truly multi-stakeholder supported reuse plan based on these important factors. Marc vigorously championed the implementation of the plan and pursued redevelopment opportunities with prospective Site users, bringing to the MPPT Site, with the City's assistance and to the surprise of many, a viable reuse option and end-user. Marc helped the Chamber secure a \$50,000 TAG grant from the US EPA to further support community participation in the investigation and remediation/redevelopment of the MPPT Site. He addressed the most complex property control issues I've ever encountered, helped manage risks and liabilities stemming from the contamination, educated stakeholders on critical redevelopment matters and helped procure public grant funds to assure project feasibility in the amount of \$1 million dollars from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the US Department of Commerce and Community Development Block Grant Funds through the Arkansas Department of Economic Development. Without Marc's hard work, dedication and broad capabilities, I do not believe that we would even be discussing the

possible redevelopment of the MPPT Site. In the absence of MPPT Site reuse and its accompanying creation of new jobs and tax revenues, the City of Plainview, quite frankly, would have no future. The redevelopment of this federal superfund site is the one fact that will ensure that maps of the State of Arkansas will continue to depict a little town in the west-central part of the State that we, here in Plainview, proudly call our home.

I also want to thank you both personally for all of your individual support in helping us to get the MPPT Site on the redevelopment path and cleaned up for the benefit of the City of Plainview and the people of Yell County and the State of Arkansas. Without your active involvement and tireless commitment on so many fronts, including in providing the critical pilot funds that we used, in part, to hire GETG, our future would be very bleak.

I hope that when the opportunity arises you will direct other parties to Marc and GETG. Small, rural towns like Plainview and, I imagine, even larger communities, often do not have any idea of how to deal with sites like the MPPT Site. Nor would we or others understand how a small Massachusetts company like GETG could really help us make redevelopment happen here in Arkansas. From our perspective, GETG definitely knows how to get the job done. Its high value-added strategic and hands-on work is clearly the hallmark of the company.

I know that you share my views about GETG and Marc. Nevertheless, given the facts of the recent grant award and the importance of EPA's reuse pilot project to us, I wanted to take the time to write to you and express my deepest gratitude.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to call me at (479) 272-2233.

Sincerely,



Harold Blalock
City Councilman
SRI Coordinator