



McHENRY COUNTY BOARD

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February 8, 2010

Michael A. McGeehin, PhD, MSPH
Director, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects
National Center for Environmental Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4777 Buford Hwy, MS F-58
Atlanta, GA 30341

Dear Dr. McGeehin,

I am in receipt of the Document titled "McCullom Lake, McHenry County Cancer Assessment: Epidemiological Review" that was recently completed by your office. The County appreciates your review of the information sent to you by the Illinois Department of Public Health. In review of the document it is apparent that there is some incorrect content in the document text present. It is my feeling that these content corrections do not influence the conclusion of the document; however, it is important that the correct information be provided to you. Corrections are noted as follows:

- 1) Page 1, paragraph 2, The McHenry County Department of Health (DOH) first became aware of alleged elevated brain cancer cases in McCullom Lake after reading about a meeting held by a law firm who was initiating a class action lawsuit against nearby companies in a local newspaper.
- 2) Page 1, paragraph 3, The DOH never identified any cases of brain cancer in the McCullom Lake area, the statement of identification may be referring to work done by the IDPH or newspaper articles.
- 3) Page 1, paragraph 6, The DOH feels that the most appropriate description of our work with the cancer registry data is **analysis** and not a study.
- 4) Page 2, paragraph 1, The DOH feels that the most appropriate description of the survey is **investigation**.
- 5) Page 2, paragraph 3, The DOH feels that the most appropriate description of the survey is **investigation**.

Your review work of McCullom Lake materials specifically addressed the epidemiological aspects of the cancer investigation. Information was also provided as to the environmental concerns of ground water and air contamination to the residents of McCullom Lake from the nearby industries. Did your review of the materials provided generate any comments on those concerns?

Thank you for the time and effort your Division has put forth in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth D. Koehler", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth D. Koehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

Cc: Tiefu Shen, Chief, Division of Epidemiologic Studies, IDPH
Melissa L Bean, US Representative (IL-08)
Patrick McNulty, McHenry County Department of Health