

December 31, 2010

Dear Commissioner Martin:

Re: Langan and JM Sorge involvement with DEP SRRA

As you know, I testified on December 9 to the Senate Environment Committee's oversight hearing on DEP implementation of the Site Remediation Reform Act (SRRA).

I noted, among other things, that the composition of DEP SRRA "Stakeholder" groups was "95% or more dominated by industry" and that these groups were re-writing the technical requirements for site remediation in a way that violated the premises of and undermined commitments of the SRRA, while weakening transparency, accountability, and public health and environmental protections.

Since then, we learned that **Langan Engineering and JM Sorge** are two groups named in the "Reform NJ" pay to play scandal. **Both are heavily represented on DEP SRRA stakeholder groups** I criticized in testimony.

Remarkably, Langan has nine (9) members and JM Sorge has one. This is in addition to Langan's senior associate Jorge Berkowitz, who was nominated by Governor Christie and now serves on the SRRA LSP Board.

In addition to looking into state contracts with "Reform NJ" contributors, I request that you conduct an investigation into Langan's influence on DEP SRRA, LSP Board, and LSP programs. An audit of Langan's SRP LSP cases pending before the Department also is warranted to assure that their access has not resulted in favorable treatment.

As you know, in addition to the SRRA LSP professional standards, the ethical standard in NJ law is "*a justifiable impression among the public that such trust is being violated.*" (NJSA 52:13D-12) (see: <http://www.state.nj.us/ethics/statutes/conflicts/>)

We believe that "Reform NJ" actions, in concert with DEP SRRA and LSP Board involvement, has violated this ethical standard and that the situation warrants investigation in order to preserve the Department's integrity.

We also request your support for calling for the resignation of Mr. Berkowitz of Langan from the LSP Board and termination of involvement in DEP SRRA stakeholder processes.

I appreciate your timely and favorable consideration of this request.

Happy New Year!
Bill Wolfe, Director,
BJ PEER
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