



Todd A. Eachus

Majority Leader

# PUBLIC INPUT SURVEY:

## Hazleton Creek Properties' new mine fill project

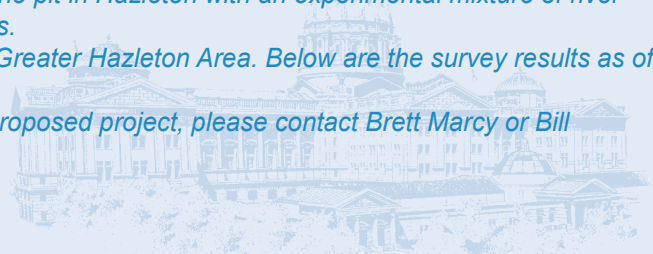
[www.pahouse.com/Eachus](http://www.pahouse.com/Eachus)

As a state representative, one of my priorities is to ensure that the voices of my constituents are heard and that their concerns and comments are taken into account when dealing with any potential public health or safety issue.

Recently, I distributed a survey to the residents of the 116th Legislative District to get their feedback regarding Hazleton Creek Properties' proposed project to fill nearly 60 acres of an abandoned mine pit in Hazleton with an experimental mixture of river dredge, fly ash and kiln dust, and construction and demolition materials.

I received more than 1,200 responses from constituents across the Greater Hazleton Area. Below are the survey results as of Monday, Dec. 14.

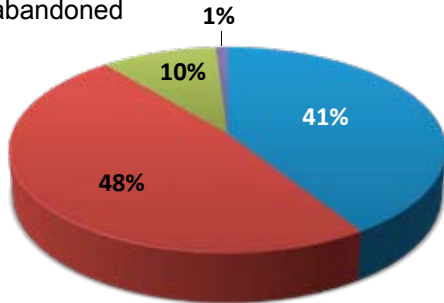
If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey or the proposed project, please contact Brett Marcy or Bill Thomas in my Harrisburg Office at 717-787-4819.



### QUESTION 1:

How informed are you about a proposed project that would use an experimental and untested mixture of river dredge, fly ash, and construction and demolition materials to fill nearly 60 acres of an abandoned mine pit in Hazleton?

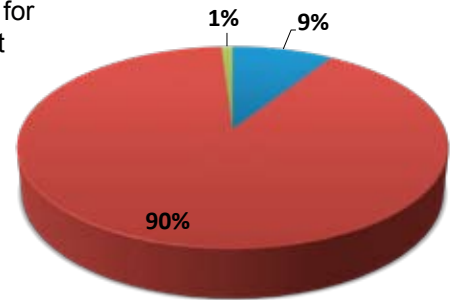
- Not informed
- Somewhat informed
- Very informed
- No answer



### QUESTION 2:

Do you support using an experimental and untested mixture of river dredge, fly ash and construction and demolition waste material as a fill for an abandoned mine pit in Hazleton?

- Yes
- No
- No answer



*"I was made aware of this project at the meeting you held at Hazle Township. I am extremely upset that this kind of thing is happening and the people of Hazleton, once again, victims of people out to make money at our expense."*

— resident, Hazleton

*"Thank you so much for sending me this information. I am very concerned about this proposed project. I fought bladder cancer for over 12 years. I never smoked, which is one of the factors in getting this cancer. Environmental hazards can cause bladder cancer and other cancers as well. Say no to this project without tighter restrictions and accurate facts."*

— resident, Hazleton.

*"I am strongly against this project. The City seems only interested in solving certain problems by being paid to accept this Dredge, not the long term health of the City and residents."*

— resident, Hazleton.

*"This region has a high rate of cancer. We don't need any more toxic material to cause more medical conditions."*

— resident, Hazleton

*"I consider this as someone else's garbage. I live on the corner of Washington and South streets, State Route 940 in Freeland. All I see is fly ash trucks passing every four minutes. We now have pink colored dust all over the house. It's been going on for years. Let's try to keep Northeastern Pennsylvania clean, not full of others trash."*

— resident, Freeland

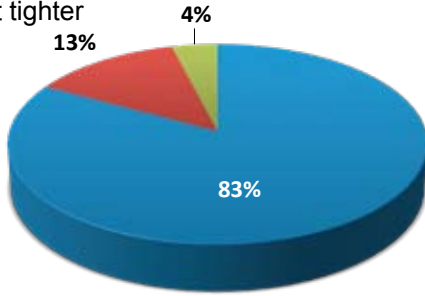
*"We live in Old Cranberry, across the street from this site and ever since they started the project, I have had trouble with breathing and my throat. When they empty the rail cars, there is such a cloud of dust and it always drifts over Cranberry. My husband and I have a constant cough and this has been documented by our family doctor."*

— resident, Hazle Township

**QUESTION 3:**

The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) limits research and development projects to no more than 50 tons of material. The proposed project in Hazleton would exceed that limit and allow for nearly 2 million tons of material. Do you support tighter restrictions on the size and scope of these types of research and development projects?

- Yes
- No
- No answer



*"Until research is done there is no way this should be allowed. Especially when combining these types of materials - no one knows the potential dangers. There is also such a vast connection to the old mines in this area that this could leach to many unsuspecting, surrounding communities, and without their knowledge."*

— resident, Drums.

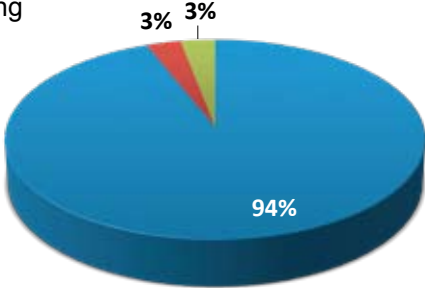
*"I agree with you that the health and safety of our people and the potential environmental impacts that this project could have on our area is of the utmost concern. Thus, much more testing of this experimental mixture is of paramount importance before a permit is issued."*

— resident, Hazleton.

**QUESTION 5:**

When dealing with research and development projects that could have an impact on the environment, drinking water and air quality, should the state DEP be required to hold a public information meeting and include a public comment period?

- Yes
- No
- No answer



*"The lack of information and public input makes this project sound not right! There should be more information."*

— resident, West Hazleton.

*"The project should be in Hazleton Area residents' best interest and not for a business' commercial interest. Why has this material been rejected elsewhere? As for Delaware River dredge, read PA summary of fishing regulations and laws concerning their fish consumption advisory."*

— resident, Hazleton.

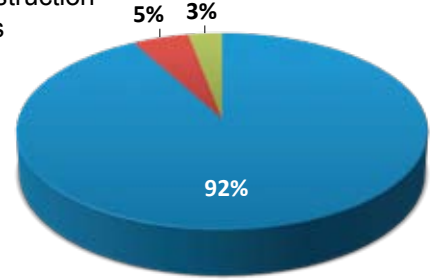
*"I use a well for domestic water supply. Can the DEP or any other supporters of this project guarantee my well will not be compromised now or anywhere in the next 50 years? Will they pay to have it periodically tested? Hasn't this area's people and environment suffered enough at the hands of big business and big government?"*

— resident, Hazle Township

**QUESTION 4:**

Construction and demolition waste must typically be disposed of in lined landfills in order to protect the public water supply. Do you think the same protections should be applied when using construction and demolition materials mixed with river dredge and fly ash as fill for abandoned mine pits?

- Yes
- No
- No answer



*"I work in the waste management business, and all modern landfills are lined for a reason. The use of the proposed materials are landfill-able materials and need to be treated as such. No one knows for sure what will be disrupted when this material is placed into this area and the land is prepared. I think, based on our local history with environmental issues, we do not need to experience anymore."*

— resident, West Hazleton

*"They know the mine tunnels are connected under Hazleton and any leachate from this project will eventually be in the mine acid water. Why do they play games and ignore mitigating what they are planning?"*

— resident, Conyngham.

*"I do not want the dredge or these materials so close to the populations, especially without lining, in the amount projected, and the experimental mix."*

— resident, Hazleton.

**WHAT CONCERNS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT THIS PROPOSED PROJECT? (Check all that apply)**

