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HERBERT C. ROSENTHAL
FIRST SELECTMAN

TOWN OF NEWTOWN
OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

March 26, 2007

**TO: Members of Board of Selectmen
 Members of Board of Finance
 Members of Legislative Council**

FROM: Herbert C. Rosenthal, First Selectman

RE: Licensed Environmental Professional Fees

Unfortunately, the fine work of our environmental consultant, R. W. Bartley & Associates, Inc. who managed the clean up of ground contamination at Fairfield Hills has been misrepresented either intentionally or through ignorance of the facts. For example, his charges were overstated by almost \$300,000. Russell Bartley has worked on the Fairfield Hills property since 1999. He worked with our environmental attorneys from Robinson & Cole to develop the Remedial Action Plan required and approved by the State Department of Environmental Protection.

DEP regulations required us to have an environmental professional to direct thorough sampling, monitor, supervise and confirm the remediation performed by the winning bidder, Fleet Environmental. The remediation project was completed on time and saved us \$500,000 by avoiding the need for environmental cost cap insurance. Bartley's invoices included the most extensive explanation of all charges of any consultant we have used in the past 10 years. I have attached a copy of a typical invoice as an example, as well as a letter summarizing his work and charges for services.

If anyone has any questions regarding the scope of or necessity for the work performed by R. W. Bartley & Associates, I refer them to Dan White, the DEP project supervisor. If he indicates that any of the work was inappropriate or unnecessary, I will seek restitution for same. However, I am confident that will not be the case.