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March 4, 2010

Mr. Scott Miller
Remedial Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV, Superfund North Florida Section
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Technical Assistance Grant request: Cabot/Koppers Superfund Site, Gainesville, Florida

Mr. Miller,

As a former Alachua County Commissioner, I know that Gainesville and Alachua County residents place a very high value on protection of public health and preservation of environmental quality. Because of the potential for this Superfund hazardous waste site to have long-term consequences within our community -- especially for the individuals and families who live and work near the site -- I urge you to award this grant with all due haste.

Public involvement in the decision-making process was critical for Congress in its 1980 approval of the Superfund program, and in its 1986 reauthorization, when the TAG program was created. Gainesville has a very high concentration of professionals who reside within our community -- yet they need assistance to understand the arcane language and processes of the federal government, engineers, and others who become involved with this toxic waste site.

To ensure that Gainesville residents whose lives are affected by this hazardous waste site have a say in actions to clean it up, I support your award of a TAG Grant to Protect Gainesville's Citizens, Inc.

With kind regards,


Penny Wheat