



January 30, 2023

*Via email to basil.seggos@ny.dec.gov*

Basil Seggos  
Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-1011

**Re: Request for the Department of Environmental Conservation to Conduct a Comprehensive Cumulative Impact Analysis of Coeymans and Associated Industrial Park and for a Meeting with Community Members**

Dear Commissioner Seggos:

The Clean Air Coalition of Greater Ravena-Coeymans and local residents, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc., Riverkeeper, Inc. and Scenic Hudson respectfully request that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“DEC”) make it their top-priority to conduct a comprehensive cumulative impact analysis of the industrial development of Coeymans, NY.

The industrialization of the Town of Coeymans has been so rapid and expansive in recent years that the impacts are felt not only by the local communities, but extend out into the Hudson Valley. To better understand the enormous impact of industrial development in Coeymans on the surrounding environment and community, we request that DEC complete a cumulative analysis of all development in Coeymans since 2006. We hope this analysis can then inform decision-makers regarding future development in the area. In addition, the community members of Coeymans would greatly appreciate a meeting with you to further discuss their concerns and this request in detail.

The rapid development has largely been driven by the expansion of the Port of Coeymans, located on the Hudson River in the Hamlet of Coeymans – one of the largest industrial sites north of New York Harbor. Over the last two decades, the Port has secured hundreds of acres of land in Coeymans and Ravena, building an immense business based on heavy industry, waste, road construction materials management, and transportation.

Since opening in 2006, the Port of Coeymans has expanded almost continuously with a multitude of new projects increasing the footprint of the Port from 120 acres to 665 acres along the Hudson shoreline and Coeymans Creek, including a staging site for the Tappan Zee Bridge project, the Coeymans Recycling Company, Coeymans Industrial Park, and a number of tenant industries and allied businesses.

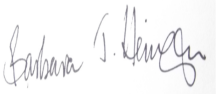
Over the years, numerous concerns about the Port of Coeymans have been raised by community members and advocates to the DEC. While DEC has responded with various violations issued and corrective actions taken at the Port, the attached record (compiled with available information and to the best of our ability) shows that the pattern of non-compliance continues. During much of this period, the Port of Coeymans has enjoyed significant influence over the decisions of the Coeymans Town Board, making it virtually impossible for the public to provide meaningful input on any review of the Port's impact on this area.

The rapid development has reduced riparian habitats, increased industrial activity and heavy vehicle traffic in residential areas, and has resulted in a history of non-compliance, including direct pollution to the Hudson River and Coeymans Creek. All this has taken a heavy toll on the natural environment and quality of life for local community members.

For that reason, we respectfully request that the DEC conduct a comprehensive cumulative impact analysis of the industrial development of Coeymans, NY, and a meeting with you to discuss our concerns further. We hope this analysis will provide an understanding of the existing environmental damage to the area when considering any future development proposal in the area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



**Barbara Heinzen**  
Clean Air Coalition of Greater Ravena-Coeymans



**Manna Jo Greene**  
Environmental Director  
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.



**Tracy Brown**  
President and Hudson Riverkeeper  
Riverkeeper



**Hayley Carlock**  
Director of Environmental Advocacy and Legal Affairs  
Scenic Hudson