

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
In the Year Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Two

Resolution 92-7

The Ad Hoc Committee on the Upper Cape Cancer Incidence Study reviewed the Study and identified the following areas where citizens of Barnstable County need additional, follow up information based on the recommendations of the Study.

***BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates:*

1) The Assembly has passed a resolution requesting that the MMR discontinue propellant bag burning until further study can demonstrate its safety. The federal government is now conducting a study and has stopped bag burning temporarily.

Data about atmospheric dispersion should be obtained in a way in which no further human exposure occurs. The 2, 4-DNT combustion product should be physically obtained and listed by direct experiments. Computer projections of anticipated products are unacceptable.

2) The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has offered to provide more information on several issues.

a. The Assembly is concerned about the elevated cancer rate for females and expects all calculations and studies to be performed as needed to assess risk and causation. The Assembly requests that DPH forward to the Assembly the BU answers to the questions raised about the female cancer rate being more elevated than the male rate. b. In addition, the DPH monitors the air quality around airport runways and can provide information about Barnstable Airport. DPH is requested to keep the Barnstable County Health and Environment Department informed on these results.

c. DPH is seeking federal funds to evaluate the extent of pesticide drift resulting from different methods of pesticide application throughout the state. The Cape Cod Commission and Barnstable County Health and Environment Department should be kept informed of this investigation.

3) The MMR has undertaken a comprehensive evaluation of the plume in the John's Pond area. The Assembly should review this report after its completion this Spring.

4) The Assembly should request that systematic power density measurements be taken throughout the area scanned by PAVEPAWS so that useful exposure data will be available for future analyses of its potential health impact, as the Study suggests.

Since PAVEPAWS is a federal facility we call on our federal delegation to obtain funding for a public health study of the effects of the peak pulses of radiation emitted by PAVEPAWS. The study should be site specific for the Upper Cape.

5) The Boston University study was limited, and it explained only a small part of the cancer increase in this region.

The study states that "it is possible that further analyses and the addition of more cases from subsequent years of the Cancer Registry would clarify and resolve some of these remaining issues".

The Committee requests DPH to conduct those further analyses and to add the most current cases available from the Cancer Registry.


The foregoing resolution was adopted by unanimous vote of the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates, with Delegates representing 91.75% of the population of Barnstable County present and voting at a meeting held May 20, 1992.

Attested by:



Diane C. Thompson, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates

The foregoing Resolution was endorsed by the Barnstable County Board of County Commissioners, 5/27/, 1992.

 Victoria H. Lowell