

TO Interested Parties  
 FROM Global Strategy Group & Scenic Hudson  
 DATE January 18, 2018  
 RE **POLL RESULTS – Hudson Valley residents support additional EPA-mandated Hudson dredging**

Global Strategy Group conducted a telephone survey in New York’s 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District to measure public support for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requiring General Electric (GE) to conduct additional dredging along the Hudson River to remove toxic PCBs GE released into the river over three decades. Our results indicate that not only do voters believe the EPA should require GE to continue its cleanup along the Hudson River, but they also feel strongly enough about this issue that it would impact their vote in the upcoming election for Congress, Governor, and other state offices this November, as well as their support for public officials in the area.

## KEY FINDINGS

**By wide margins and across the region’s demographic groups, Hudson Valley residents believe the EPA should require GE to continue its cleanup along the Hudson River.**

By a margin of more than 5 to 1 (61% to 11%), voters believe the EPA should require GE to continue its cleanup efforts along the Hudson River. Just 11% believe GE has sufficiently cleaned up the Hudson River, and 19% of voters are not sure.

This support crosses demographic groupings and partisan lines: 73% of registered Democrats, 56% of independents, and 56% of Republicans believe the EPA should require GE to continue cleanup, as do the district’s most conservative voters. Voters who have heard a lot or some about dredging efforts along the Hudson River recently are also more likely to believe GE should continue cleanup (64%), as are college-educated voters (64%) and women (65%).

SUPPORT FOR EPA-MANDATED CLEANUP EFFORTS				
EPA should require GE to continue cleanup	GE has sufficiently cleaned up	NET CONTINUE CLEANUP	NET CONTINUE CLEANUP (INFORMED)	
61	11	+50	+65	Total
58	13	+45	+62	Men
65	9	+56	+68	Women
62	11	+51	+69	18-44
62	9	+53	+71	45-64
60	13	+47	+56	65+
59	12	+47	+60	Non-college
64	9	+55	+71	College Grad
56	12	+44	+60	Non-College Men
59	14	+45	+65	College Men
62	13	+49	+61	Non-College Women
68	5	+63	+77	College Women
73	5	+68	+79	Democrats
56	10	+46	+63	Independent/Other
56	16	+40	+55	Republicans
73	6	+67	+81	Liberal
66	5	+61	+74	Moderate
49	19	+30	+45	Conservative
64	13	+51	+65	Heard a lot/some
56	7	+49	+65	Heard a little/not much

**There is significant intensity behind support for cleanup, enough so that voters in the district say it would influence their vote in the upcoming election.** 68% say that it would be likely to influence their vote in the upcoming election if a public official in their area took a position on requiring GE to continue cleanup in the Hudson River, including 80% of Democrats, 66% of independents, and 60% of Republicans.

**Voters in New York's 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District have heard a lot about dredging along the Hudson River, and opinions on the issue are solidly-formed.** Local residents have been hearing a lot about this issue recently: a majority of voters in the district (65%) say they have heard a lot (38%) or some (27%) recently about recent cleanup efforts to remove PCBs along the Hudson River. Just a third of voters (34%) say they have heard just a little or not much at all about dredging recently.

This issue is also important enough to Hudson Valley residents to impact their support for local public officials: nearly 6 in 10 voters (58%) say that if a public official in their area were to call on the EPA to force GE to continue its cleanup of the Hudson, it would make them more likely to vote for them in the upcoming election. Just 13% of likely midterm voters say it would make them less likely to vote for a candidate/public official.

**When residents learn that state and national authorities including the Governor, local business groups, and the Department of the Interior, support for additional cleanup increases.** After hearing this information, support increases across the board, to 75% overall (+65 net support), 85% of Democrats (+79), 71% of independents (+63), and 69% of Republicans (+55).

## METHODOLOGY

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Global Strategy Group conducted a telephone survey among a representative sample of 402 likely 2018 general election voters in New York's 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional district from January 10-12, 2018. The results have a margin of error of +/- 4.9 percentage points, and care has been taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the electorate are properly represented based on available voter file data.