

October 20, 2009

Mr. Alexander B. Grannis  
Commissioner, NYSDEC  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-1011

**Re: Delay in Funding for the Clean Air Coalition**

Dear Commissioner Grannis:

I am alarmed at the delay up in funding for the Clean Air Coalition of Tonawanda, NY. I understand that New York State is experiencing budget difficulties, but you and I know very well that the Coalition is playing a crucial role in bringing a very important issue to a head in this heavily burdened community. The courageous and diligent work of the Clean Air Coalition is a model for environmental justice efforts across New York State and this is the exact wrong time for the DEC to be lagging in its contractual obligation to this organization.

As you may recall the DEC awarded the Clean Air Coalition a \$40,000 grant for 2009. The grant is paid out in three \$12,000 installments (and one \$4,000 installment at the end of the year). The Clean Air Coalition received the first installment in the Spring, but has yet to receive the second one.

I urge you to release funding immediately for the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment due the Coalition. Should there be a problem in doing so, please contact me personally as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Antoine M. Thompson  
New York State Senate, 60<sup>th</sup> District

AMT/wmn

Cc: Mr. Charles Cobb, Board Chairperson , Clean Air Coalition