



Dear Clean Air Coalition Members and Supporters,

My name is Mary Blue. I am the mother of twin boys, a grandmother of twelve, and a great grandmother as well. I started attending meetings at Clean Air five years ago, and I haven't missed a meeting since. **I am proud to be a member of the Clean Air Coalition's Delavan Grider campaign team.** I am writing to share how Clean Air's work supports my own roots of resilience in fighting for environmental justice for my family and community.

I was born on the East side of Buffalo and have lived here my whole life. There are four generations of my family that live here, and I'm concerned for our safety. We have a rich history... much sadness, mixed with extraordinary happiness. My brother worked at Tonawanda Coke, and I recently lost him to cancer. He was told that he was in remission, but he died within months. My father worked at GM, and he died some years back of cancer too. And one of my grandsons is 43 years old and has sarcoidosis, an inflammatory disease that affects multiple organs. I have sat by and watched his whole life go by because of this disease. My father, my brother, and my grandson -- nor anyone else -- deserves to wonder if their home and their environment are making them sick.



This issue doesn't only affect me and my family, but many families have experienced these hardships. And we are tired....

I'm tired of my voice not being heard. I'm tired of my family's pain being unseen. We want this to end. We have asked for 10 years for the American Axle site in Delavan Grider to be cleaned up. A site that is contaminated with PCBs, a known carcinogen. But our voices have fall upon deaf ears.

I have seen the owners come and go... GM became American Axle, and American Axle has now become OSC, owned by Jon Williams. **And we've been here through it all demanding justice.** We have had some incredible wins with Clean Air over the years, especially when we secured a Superfund designation and the installment of a temporary system to stop 110 gallons of toxic waste from dumping into our sewers. However, it's not happening quickly enough. And I feel strongly that if Jon Williams hasn't cleaned up the American Axle site in the 10 years that he has owned it, we cannot trust him to cleanup Tonawanda Coke, which he just bought.

We want to know now if the soil in our backyards is contaminated; and if it's polluted, we need for it to be cleaned up. **We want to plant gardens, but we won't because we're too scared that it will make us sick.** We deserve to live in healthy communities and grow our own food. And my grandkids deserve to play outside when they come to my house.

Together, we must demand justice. We all need to get behind Clean Air and the work they are doing in this community. We need to do this for the many people that are not able to speak up.

Clean Air is an organization to support... an organization that is doing the magnitude of work. **I am asking you, my neighbor, to join us in keeping our home resilient by becoming a member of Clean Air Coalition.**

Contribute today so the fight can go on!