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To: The Honorable, The City Council

For: Council Meeting of June 23

From: Cambridgeport Neighborhood Initiative (CNI)

Re: Proposed development of Polaroid site, 784 Memorial Drive, 1:01
CAMBRIDGE MA.

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97 JUN 19 PM 1:01

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Pursuant to City Council order # 101 of June 2, 1997

Polaroid Corp. provided the City Manager with results of a cleanup of chemical contamination at Building #7, to the rear of its 6-acre site. The Dept. of Environmental Protection identifies this as Release Tracking Number 3-1959.

Several members of the CNI have examined this report extensively (a removal of 6 tanks with toluene and 1,2, dichloro ethane). Given the limited location of bore holes for soil samples, and the profile of chemicals tested, as well as the history of former manufacturing there, serious questions arise about possible subsoil chemical contamination on other parts of the 6-acre site.

Of special concern is the soil underneath Buildings #2, 3 and 8 toward the front of the site, where BB Chemical Co. manufactured adhesives for thirty years (1936-1966), and underneath the land adjacent to Pleasant St. toward Putnam Ave, where Dover Stamping Co. manufactured sheet metal, using chemical solvents, from 1900 to 1935.

Polaroid is currently drilling holes for foundation testing toward the front of the site, where BB Chemicals did manufacturing, using Haley & Aldrich (a licensed site professional to the DEP).

We strongly urge that Polaroid be requested to test this soil for the widest possible profile of chemical contamination, for crucial public health & safety reasons, before any demolition or construction.

Elie Yarden, co-chair
Stash Horowitz, co-chair
6/19/97 for the CNI

Consent Communication #9

S-395

Communication was received from Elie Yarden
and Stash Horowitz, Co-Chairs of the
Cambridgeport Neighborhood Initiative,
transmitting their concern regarding
the proposed development of Polaroid site,
784 Memorial Drive.

In City Council June 23, 1997

Referred to
City Manager

6-25-97
Copy sent
MC