

# Hudson CAG Annual Member Check-In

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Based on CBI calls with CAG  
members and alternates

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February 22, 2007



# CAG Successes

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## RELATIONSHIPS

- Personal relationships among members are invaluable
- Improved relationship between EPA and many member/stakeholder groups

## PROCESS

- People increasingly comfortable to speak frankly and constructively at the meetings
- Meetings on task and focused
- Subgroups work well - enable in-depth work
  - Economic development meetings spurred action
  - Technical group did detailed reviews of draft design
- Civility has greatly increased at meetings

# CAG Successes (2)

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## INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

- Good information sharing vehicle
- Forum is a good way to examine issues
- Presentations: impressed with Trustees work, good capturing of issues/items for discussion

## OTHER

- EPA staff patient, hardworking, honest, good community relations
- CAG members seem to agree on many issues
- Boat trip was good, want another

# CAG Concerns & Challenges

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## INFLUENCE

- CAG's advisory role and limited power to influence GE and EPA.
- Concerned CAG community relations rather than community input
- Very limited interaction with GE

## TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIVENESS

- EPA should be more straightforward and transparent with the CAG
- Some feel they are wasting their time (“treading water”): answers not available, missed opportunities, no progress

# CAG Challenges (2)

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## MEDIA

- Press attention tends to encourage grandstanding, not conversation
- Occasional name calling: group's behavior more unpredictable when cameras are on

## PROJECT

- Project delay
- Need to see substantive, active progress

## OUTREACH

- Low community awareness of the project

# Ideas for the CAG



- Orientation for new members (face to face, with EPA and CBI)
- Keep subgroups active
- Have CAG members decide when CAG will meet or not: whether EPA has news or not
- Invite Alan Steinberg (EPA Region 2) again
- Reach out to new congressional leaders
- Want CAG meeting schedule in advance
- Change meeting locations sometimes. Have a meeting in Albany or south.
- Some time at each meeting to plan for the future benefits & economic development

# Potential Topics for Future CAG Discussion

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- New roadmap (schedule) of documents to be submitted by GE to EPA, when made public, etc
- Resuspension
- Air and Noise Pollution
- Community Benefits and Economic Development
  - Tourism Related to Cultural Resources
  - Learn from Pittsfield/Housatonic Site
- Navigational Dredging

# Potential Topics for Future CAG Discussion (Cont'd)

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- Update from GE on HudsonWorks website
- Phase II Floodplains
- Impact to Wildlife & Habitat
- Hudson Falls Plant - regular update
- Water Supply
- PCBs 101 - how PCBs affect human health
- Traffic - trucks, roads

**Note:** several mentioned that some of these topics have been discussed previously.