

The Hartley Company
Petroleum Marketer

October 7, 1999

Mr. Brice G. Birkhofer
Marathon Ashland Petroleum LLC
539 South Main Street
Findlay, Ohio 45840-3295

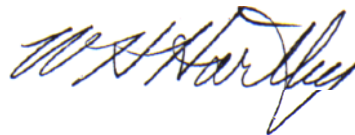
RE: FORMER MARATHON #3152 -1624 Copley Road, Akron, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Birkhofer:

Our recent purchase of the above referenced facility includes a joint environmental liability after certain criteria are met. Because of this, we would like you to consider the use of BJAAM Environmental, inc (BJAAM) for the continued environmental work at this site. BJAAM has consistently outperformed other consultants we have used and always keeps our interests in mind. At this particular site, Hartley and Marathon/Ashland both have an interest in seeing the issuance of a No Further Action (NFA) letter from BUSTR as soon as possible.

We believe that BJAAM will be able to obtain the NFA faster and at a lower cost. Troy Schultz at BJAAM is currently working with Greg Smith of your office on several unrelated Marathon sites. Troy will discuss this site with Greg next week. If you have any questions please call myself or Troy (BJAAM, 800 666 5331. Or me at the number below.

The Hartley Company



W. H. HARTLEY
Treasurer

Troy. for your records.
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