



Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island

100 Fairway Drive
North Kingstown, RI 02852
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September 17, 2026

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Eric LaRose
Vice President
Operations
Bitumar USA, Inc.
c/o jcervenka@cgesq.com
Cervenka Green LLC
41 Romano Vineyard Way #6153
North Kingstown, RI 02852

Re: Consistent and Unhealthy Asphalt Odors in North Kingstown

Dear Mr. Larose,

Thank you for meeting with representatives of North Kingstown on August 18, 2026, as well as your follow-up correspondence of September 1, 2026.

In your letter, you stated that “Bitumar has operated elsewhere in Rhode Island for more than ten years without similar complaints” However, according to my research Bitumar was issued a notice of violation for venting uncontrolled emissions of asphalt storage tanks that “created an air pollution nuisance” in 2007 in the state of Maryland. Clearly, Bitumar has previously dealt with the challenges that it currently faces in North Kingstown; this is not unique.

The fact of the matter is that your facility located in West Davisville is less than a ½ mile from 133 units of affordable housing and near other residential neighborhoods. Accordingly, it should never have been placed where it is, particularly since not even one citizen from the town of North Kingstown had any input in placing this facility in such an inappropriate location. Notwithstanding that, this correspondence confirms that Bitumar has agreed to invest in the needed extra equipment to eradicate the unacceptable smell and contaminants associated with it.

To that end, I am writing to ask you **for an approximate timetable for installation of this equipment and a better understanding of when the citizens of North Kingstown can have confidence that these unhealthy odors and contaminants will be eliminated.** I know that in

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some instances you are relying on third parties, but if you would kindly let me know **within the next ten (10) days I would appreciate it.**

Further, I am also **asking for an explanation of which contaminants you anticipate will be mitigated by installing this equipment and how you will assess that.** Odors pose a problem for the quality of life of impacted residents, but asphalt odors are caused by and/or associated with emissions of specific compounds that have documented health effects, and the town of North Kingstown deserves to know that you are taking an objective approach to mitigation rather than relying on something as subjective as an individual sense of smell.

If the information is not available within this time frame, our community would like to know when it would be because this has been going on for some time now and we deserve to know when this issue will be resolved.

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. May I kindly receive a reply.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Mancini
President

cc: Citizens of North Kingstown
North Kingstown Town Council
A Ralph Mollis
Terrence Gray, DEM
S. King, Quonset Development Corporation
J. Callaghan

