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**NY/NJ BAYKEEPER AND EDISON WETLANDS ASSOCIATION FILE
AGAINST RIVERTON DEVELOPERS**

*Measures taken to prevent the construction of a Raritan River marina until
contaminated sediments are remediated*

MATAWAN, NJ - NY/NJ Baykeeper and Edison Wetlands Association (EWA) have filed a motion for a preliminary injunction in their case against NL Industries Inc., to prevent the Riverton Development Group from constructing a large 200-slip marina in the contaminated sediments of the Raritan River. NY/NJ Baykeeper and EWA have a common interest with the developers in a clean and safe river but cannot advocate for full public access until the sediments are remediated.

The preliminary injunction filed further requests that NL (National Lead) study the full extent of sediment contamination through a remedial investigation and delineation of the sediments. NL contaminated the sediments of the Raritan River with arsenic, copper, lead, nickel, and zinc for decades, through discharges that continued even after its plant closed. These contaminants may pose a substantial risk to wildlife and human health.

In 2009, NY/NJ Baykeeper and EWA filed a federal lawsuit against NL with the purpose of compelling the cleanup of contaminated sediments in the Raritan River bordering the current Riverton development project.

“The sediment in the Raritan River adjacent to the Riverton redevelopment project is extremely contaminated from industrial pollution dumped there when

the site was operated by the National Lead Company (NL Industries)," **said Greg Remaud, Baykeeper and Chief Executive Officer, NY/NJ Baykeeper.**

"Before Riverton or anyone starts pushing contaminated sediment into the water column to build a marina or other construction, it is crucial that NL conducts a delineation of the extent of contamination and remediation that contamination," said Remaud. "We will fight to prevent any activities that increase the exposure of people, wildlife and the environment to health threats in this area."

"The Raritan River Estuary is where life begins and we demand NL Industries clean and restore the poisoned sediments left behind from their industrial legacy," **said Robert Spiegel, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Edison Wetlands Association.**

For more than 20 years, Edison Wetlands Association has championed for clean sediments in the Raritan River and has battled NL Industries to clean the sediments and make the Raritan River Estuary safe for wildlife and those who consume it.

"We will use every possible tool in our legal system to hold NL accountable to protect the public and restore the sediments to make them safe for public to use," said Spiegel. "The public has the right to be able to fish, swim and recreate in a clean Raritan River and not be exposed to toxic sediments. That will not be possible unless NL Industries is forced to clean the sediments and address any on-going impacts from those sediments. Future generations will look back at this case and judge our legal system's judicial processes in holding polluting industries accountable by the outcome of this case."

NY/NJ Baykeeper and EWA are represented in their lawsuit against NL by Terris, Pravlik & Millian, LLP.

Riverton's fact sheet can be viewed at experienceriverton.com.

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About NY/NJ Baykeeper

NY/NJ Baykeeper is the citizen advocate of the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary. Since 1989, we've worked to protect, preserve, and restore the environment of the most urban estuary on Earth – benefiting its natural and human communities. Through our Estuary-wide programs we seek to end pollution, improve public access, conserve and restore public lands, restore aquatic habitats, encourage appropriate development and discourage inappropriate development, carry out public education, and work with federal and NY/NJ state regulators and citizen groups as partners in planning for a sustainable future for the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary watershed. Raritan Riverkeeper is a

program of the NY/NJ Baykeeper. To learn more, visit www.nynjbaykeeper.org.

About Edison Wetlands Association

Founded in 1989 by Executive Director Robert Spiegel, Edison Wetlands Association (EWA) is New Jersey's leader in toxic waste site cleanups, restoration and conservation of environmental resources. EWA works in several critical areas: cleaning and restoring the longest river solely in New Jersey, the Raritan River; preserving Central New Jersey's remaining natural areas, including the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area; and helping to empower communities that suffer negative impacts from environmental injustices and inequities. To learn more, visit <http://www.edisonwetlands.org/>.

Protecting, preserving, and restoring the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary since 1989.
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