



# NEWS RELEASE

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150 West State Street · Trenton, NJ 08608 · 609.392.4214 · 609.392.4816 (fax) · [www.chemistrycouncilnj.org](http://www.chemistrycouncilnj.org)

**Contact:** Elvin Montero  
609.947.3122 (m)  
609.392.4214 (o)

[emontero@chemistrycouncilnj.org](mailto:emontero@chemistrycouncilnj.org)

## **CCNJ APPLAUDS GOVERNOR CHRISTIE AND THE NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE FOR THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION (A-4543) EXTENDING TIME FOR COMPLETION OF REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION**

January 22, 2014 -- (Trenton, NJ) – The Chemistry Council of New Jersey (CCNJ) commends Governor Christie and the Legislature for the swift enactment of Assembly Bill No. 4543, which authorizes the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to extend the deadline for the completion of remedial investigations of certain contaminated sites prior to the department undertaking direct oversight.

In developing SRRA, the Legislature’s goal was to transform the failed site remediation process that left 20,000 sites backlogged in order to expedite the clean-up of sites and return them to productive use. The CCNJ fully supports these objectives and is grateful that the governor and the members of the Legislature recognize that there exists great disparity in the size, nature and complexity of the contaminated sites in New Jersey.

This law provides a measured extension for a very small number of responsible parties to complete the investigation of a site in need of remediation so that the most appropriate clean-up plan can be carefully developed and executed. “A4543 recognizes the efforts being made by those responsible parties making a good-faith effort to remediate their sites in a timely matter, but cannot do so because of circumstances particular to the site that are beyond their control,” said Hal Bozarth, executive director of the CCNJ. “This extension allows sites dealing with more complicated cleanups, off-site access issues and the oversight of multiple government agencies to proceed in a manner that best protects public health and the environment.”

The CCNJ estimates that approximately 500 to 700 of the 4300 contaminated sites in the Licensed Site Remediation Professional Program within the Department of Environmental Protection, which need to complete the remedial investigation phase by May 7, 2014, will apply for the two year extension that the new law provides. Without this law, these sites would return to direct oversight by Department of Environmental Protection case managers and face delayed clean-up, cost increases and a return to the very problems the Licensed Site Remediation Program was designed to correct.

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*The Chemistry Council of New Jersey (CCNJ), founded in 1955, is the trade and advocacy organization representing the interests of about 70 New Jersey manufacturers in the business of chemistry. Our membership consists of large and small companies that are part of New Jersey’s chemical, pharmaceutical, consumer packaged goods, petroleum, flavor & fragrances and precious metals industries. The CCNJ is committed to a better quality of life through science*

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