

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

August 21, 2007

Mr. Tim West  
Congressional Liaison Officer  
U.S.G.S. National Center  
Room 7A418, Mail Stop 119  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive  
Reston, VA 20192

Re: Lake Ronkonkoma, NY

Dear Mr. West:

We are writing on behalf of our constituents that reside around Lake Ronkonkoma and at the request of Suffolk County Legislator John Kennedy.

Lake Ronkonkoma borders the 1st Congressional District on Long Island and its responsibility is shared by Suffolk County, and the Towns of Brookhaven, Islip and Smithtown. In recent years, the water table of Lake Ronkonkoma has risen dramatically, which is having a severe impact on the quality of life of thousands of families. At this moment, families living near the lake are pumping water from their basements, which they have been doing around the clock.


While the problems facing the Lake Ronkonkoma community were not caused by the federal government, as federal elected officials, we believe the federal government can play an important role in helping these residents. Legislator Kennedy has been working with the USGS regional office in Coram to provide expertise and help to determine solutions which can be implemented by local lawmakers.

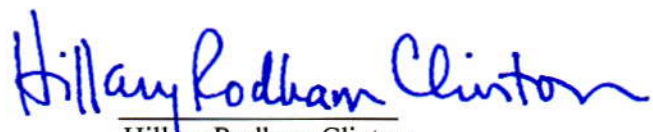
On behalf of Legislator Kennedy and with the best interests of our constituents in mind we are requesting that the USGS do the following:

1. Conduct a bottom sampling of Lake Ronkonkoma to determine the thickness of the silt and its impact on natural recharge;
2. Establish additional monitoring wells around Lake Ronkonkoma;
3. Examine and determine the status of the current monitoring well number S-1811 to determine its current level of functionality.

It is our hope that these three steps will play a part in the overall goal of establishing a solution to this very serious problem. Thank you for your time and attention to this request. Please contact Lisa Wieber of Congressman Bishop's Coram District office at 631-696-6500 or Lauren Montes in Senator Clinton's office at 631-249-2825 with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,

  
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Timothy Bishop  
Member of Congress

  
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Hillary Rodham Clinton  
United States Senator