

Debbie Meister

I urge the MPCA to require a full cleanup and remediation (Alternative 6) of the Ford Area C for the following reasons:

1. We may not yet understand the full health and environmental impacts of the substances that have been dumped at Area C. If allowed to remain, we put our community and communities down river at risk.
2. Given the land along the Mississippi River was originally the Dakota people's, there is no way to respectfully undo the harms perpetuated by Ford other than returning the land to its original condition.
3. Only a full cleanup provides the opportunity to create new park facilities or other amenities that benefit the public. All other proposed alternatives require the site to be fenced off as an industrial waste site in perpetuity.
4. A full cleanup may encourage future investments along the river and to adjacent properties, which could enhance the attractiveness and value of nearby land.
5. Industries must be held accountable for their practices. Allowing Ford to do a partial cleanup sends the wrong message to other would-be polluters.