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August 25, 2015

Samuel Peterson
Office of Civil Rights
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 1201A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Formal Complaint - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, A Recipient of EPA Assistance, EPA File No: 18R-15-R5

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Please be advised that I represent the Southeast Environmental Task Force (SETF).

On June 29, 2015, SETF submitted a Complaint asserting that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency engaged in discriminatory activity by failing to engage in public participation as part of its decision to issue a Lifetime Operating Permit to Agri-Fine on or about January 2, 2015. SETF asserted Illinois EPA violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (Title VI), 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) §§ 2000d *et seq.*, and the EPA's nondiscrimination regulations found at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Part 7. SETF also asserted the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency failed to adhere to its commitments pursuant to the resolution of a previous OCR Complaint, No. 13R-10-R5.

U.S. EPA formally acknowledged receipt of this Complaint on July 23, 2015. U.S. EPA subsequently conducted phone conferences regarding this Complaint on August 6th and August 20th.

Following the submission of the Complaint to OCR, Illinois EPA concluded its own investigation of this matter in response to a grievance filed by SETF pursuant to the Illinois Environmental Justice Grievance process. Illinois EPA issued its EJ Grievance Investigative Report and Resolution on July 2, 2015. A true and accurate copy of this document is attached to this letter, and is also available on-line:

<http://www.epa.illinois.gov/Assets/iepa/environmental-justice/fines/agri-fine/response.pdf>.

Based on the findings, responsive measures and commitments contained in the Illinois EPA's July 2, 2015 EJ Grievance Investigative Report and Resolution, SETF is now voluntarily withdrawing Complaint No. 18R-15-R5, which is pending before U.S. EPA's Office of Civil Rights.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,



Keith Harley
Attorney for the Southeast Environmental Task Force

Enc

cc:

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