

AX-09-000-401E



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

**MAR 30 2009**

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

S-6J

Mr. Jess Atwell  
Midland Tomorrow  
300 Rodd Street  
Midland, Michigan 48640

Dear Mr. Atwell:

Thank you for your continued interest in the dioxin contamination in the Saginaw Bay watershed. As your letter indicates, Administrator Lisa Jackson, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) did put on hold EPA's negotiations while a high-level team from her office and EPA Region 5 met with individuals regarding their concerns and options for addressing the site.

The EPA Team met with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Dow Chemical and various officials and organizations representing a range of environmental, governmental and business interests on March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The EPA Team found the meetings and discussions to be very helpful and is currently in the process of sharing the information gained with the Administrator. EPA is hoping to be able to share its perspective on the direction it intends to follow within the next several weeks. As we take the first steps toward achieving a comprehensive cleanup at this site, we look forward to working with you and others in the community while ensuring meaningful opportunities for public involvement.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact Ms. Wendy Carney of my staff at 312-353-6553.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division