



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

COPY

APR 03 2009

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

S-6J

Ms. Joan Herbert
MidMichigan Medical Center
4005 Orchard Drive
Midland, Michigan 48670

Dear Ms. Herbert:

Thank you for your continued interest in the dioxin contamination in the Saginaw Bay watershed. I was asked to respond to your March 12, 2009 letter to Administrator Lisa Jackson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. As your letter indicates, Administrator Lisa Jackson 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 18th and 19th, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard C. Karl".

for Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division