To: Joe, Don[Joe.Don@epa.gov]
From: Guzman, Humberto[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A1A1EBDDE6194931A90DE37A974F7AB8-GUZMAN, HUMBERTO]
Sent: Tue 8/21/2018 1:46:27 PM (UTC)
Subject: FW: (CWA - FY18-174834-3709-CV) Referred to Region - Kentucky

FYI

From: Barclay, Sally (EEC) [mailto:Sally.Barclay@ky.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:51 AM
To: Guzman, Humberto <Guzman.Humberto@epa.gov>
Cc: Gaddis, Sarah (EEC) <Sarah.Gaddis@ky.gov>; Thomas, Randy (EEC) <randy.thomas@ky.gov>
Subject: RE: (CWA - FY18-174834-3709-CV) Referred to Region - Kentucky

Good morning Humberto,

I am unable to work in our system because it is "down" for now. So this complaint about Ellis Park will have to wait for a short time.

However, I read the entire complaint. I am very familiar with the race track and, especially, the backside. This track was built in 1922 on river bottom land. It has been under water a number of times and sits somewhere on an oasis that is called Kentucky, but on the Indiana side of the Ohio River.

I believe the only complaint in the "laundry list" that my office can investigate is the drinking water quality being delivered to the race track. And that is if the drinking water is coming from Kentucky. I cannot speak to the sewage overflow because a specific date and location is not provided. And the discharges he/she alleges are not given in any particular location or timeline that we could properly address.

When I can, I will contact you about an incident number.

Best Regards,

Sally R. Barclay, ESIV
Complaint Coordinator
EEC-DEP-DOW
300 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 782-6884

From: Guzman, Humberto [mailto:Guzman.Humberto@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 6:34 AM
To: Barclay, Sally (EEC) <Sally.Barclay@ky.gov>
Cc: Barrino, Reginald <Barrino.Reginald@epa.gov>; Joe, Don <Joe.Don@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: (CWA - FY18-174834-3709-CV) Referred to Region - Kentucky

Sally,

How are you today? Can you please have someone look into this citizen complaint? DOW may already know about this facility.

Thank you,
Humberto

-----Original Message-----

8/11/2018 12:05 PM

HQ LEAD NUMBER: FY18-174834-3709-CV

SUBJECT: Referred to Region - Kentucky

FROM:

TO:

Alleged Violator's Name: Ellis Park Racing

Alleged Violator's Address: 3300 US Hwy 41

Alleged Violator's City: Henderson

Alleged Violator's State: Kentucky

Alleged Violator's Zip: 42420

Submitter IP Address: 174.255.0.119

Tip or Complaint: Ellis Park is a thoroughbred race track and also has year round instant gaming machines that are similar to slot machines. Hundreds of thousands of people patron the track yearly. It has serious plumbing, environmental safety issues, water issues, and contamination in restroom facilities in the Clubhouse and on the "backside" of the horse track where horses stable and many immigrants live. The water they serve to people in the form of ice, tea, coffee, and soft drinks are also affected and contaminated with rust and who knows what else. Toilet bowl waters are brown. There are good filters on what is consumed. When the filters get changed they are a black tar goo buildup. There are major problems in AC units and the condensation drips from the ceiling tiles and at times causes ceiling tiles to fall on customers while they sit and eat food. When it rains water comes inside from the ground and ceiling in many places. Again tiles falling on dinner tables. There are two kitchens in the Clubhouse and the one downstairs is never cleaned. The sewer is also known to back up in the drain in the downstairs kitchen as well. Upstairs kitchen is not as bad. Raw sewage backs up in drains in the restrooms, runs out onto floors inside buildings. Outside where a new public restroom was built, when the toilets are flushed it runs 50 feet thru the pipes and comes up through the parking lot and right into storm drains. They never protect the public from walking through it. Last year at a hay ride they were unloading families right at the drain where actual toilet paper and raw sewage had come up thru a drain and dried. People had no clue they were walking thru raw sewage, Ellis Park was told and they wouldn't even park the tractor to avoid that drain. On the backside of the racetrack lives a small community where the horses are trained. People from other cities and states ship in to race their horses. Some stay and live in dorm rooms and locals also live and train back there for a few months a year and are being forced to use rest room facilities where feces is all over. There is a janitor that is not doing the job. Hepatitis is on the rise especially in Kentucky and this industry has a lot of immigrants who come from countries where there is no plumbing so it's a part education problem where that is concerned and the right people not holding trainers and managers responsible for telling them and making them do right. They will use the restroom in pizza boxes and stack them in a corner and leave them in their dorm rooms. Last week someone did #2 off a balcony! Broad daylight! Urinate in empty soda bottles and leave them. There are two bathhouses that are locked up because Ellis Park won't repair them. It's no use to report it to local Health Department and Environmental Services. I did and they did nothing. If they come for inspection they are told to come back tomorrow and they come back so that things get temporarily cleaned up. The horsemen are saying they cannot take another minute living in these conditions another day. They complain and nothing is done. The answer to the backside is simple. Education is one answer. Making trainers and managers more responsible for making sure their immigrant employees know what not to do in the bathrooms and how to use a toilet right. An informed 0 tolerance policy. Make it knows if they want their jobs "cut the crap" literally. Have more employees frequenting bathrooms. No one will take initiative to put a program in place. Why does someone have to get really sick and or die first? This isn't just a problem at this track. It's at all the tracks because the community moves from track to track. They even have a dog there daily and stays in the commissary where the food and drinks are kept. The answer to the "frontside"... There isn't one. The previous owner almost bankrupted the place by stealing so much money there was never any for repairs and now they are owned by Saratoga Hospitality Group. That change happened in the last month. Please can you do something? Thank you.

Violation Still Occurring? Yes

State DEP/DEQ/DEM Notified? No