UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

December 19, 2016

OFFICE OF
CIVIL RIGHTS

Return Receipt Requested
Certified Mail #: (b) (6) Privacy

In Reply Refer to:
EPA File No: 48X-16-R6

(b) (6) - Privacy

Woodville, Texas (b) (6) - Privacy

Re: Closure of Administrative Correspondence

Dear (b) (6) Privacy

On September 23, 2016, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Civil Rights (OCR) received your inquiry regarding the injection of flotation foam for a boat building business. Please note that the EPA Office of Civil Rights is responsible for enforcing several civil rights laws which together prohibit discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency) sex, disability, and age by recipients of federal financial assistance. As your correspondence does not raise a claim of discrimination with which this office can assist, OCR is closing this matter as of the date of this letter.

In response to your questions as to whether EPA has noted any environmental hazards or whether it regulates the injection of floatation foam for boats, EPA provides information about acceptable alternatives to be used in marine flotation foam under the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) at the Stratospheric Protection Division website https://www.epa.gov/snap/substitutes-rigid-polyurethane-marine-flotation-foam OCR suggests contacting that EPA division directly with any questions you may have. The SNAP Coordinator can be reached at (202) 564-7768, or ask to speak with Chenise Farquharson. You may also reach the SNAP program by mail at U.S. EPA Stratospheric Protection Division, Mail Code 6205T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20460.

The website https://www.epa.gov/snap/overview-snap provides an overview of the SNAP program and this contact information. SNAP implements section 612 of the amended Clean Air Act of 1990. According to https://www.epa.gov/snap/snap-regulations, this requires EPA to "evaluate substitutes for the ozone-depleting substances to reduce overall risk to human health and the environment. Through these evaluations, SNAP generates lists of acceptable and unacceptable substitutes for each of the major industrial use sectors. The intended effect of the SNAP program is to promote a smooth transition to safer alternatives."

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You may also wish to contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). TCEQ may be able to provide you with additional information relating to your inquiry. Jack Holsomback is the Small Business and Local Government Compliance Specialist at TCEQ for Region 5, which includes Woodville, Texas (Tyler County). His phone number is (903) 535-5158. He may be reached by mail at 2916 Teague Drive, Tyler, Texas 75701-3734.

If you have any further questions about this correspondence, please contact Jonathan Stein, Case Manager, at (202) 564-2088, by e-mail at *stein.jonathan@epa.gov* or by mail at U.S. EPA Office of Civil Rights, Mail Code 1201A, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Sincerely,

Lilian S. Dorka
Acting Director
Office of Civil Rights

cc: Elise Packard
Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

Samuel Coleman
Deputy Regional Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
U.S. EPA, Region 6

Betsy Shaw
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
U.S. EPA, Office of Air and Radiation