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

EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE OFFICE
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

November 9, 2017

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

**In Reply Refer to:**
EPA File No: 47U-16-R4

Steven Rosenbaum
Chief
U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
Special Litigation Section
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530

**Re: Referral of Administrative Correspondence**

Dear Mr. Rosenbaum:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO) is referring a complaint received September 12, 2016 from a prisoner incarcerated at the Polk Correctional Institution (Polk CI), operated by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS). The complaint against Polk CI alleges that the Complainant and other prisoners at Polk CI are living in unsanitary conditions including floors caked in bodily fluids. ECRCO cannot accept this complaint for investigation, because neither Polk CI nor NCDPS are recipients of EPA financial assistance. As this complaint does not fall within ECRCO's jurisdiction, ECRCO must reject the complaint and close it as the date of this letter.

As the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) may have jurisdiction over Polk CI and/or NCDPS, ECRCO is referring this complaint to your office for appropriate action. We have notified Complainant and NCDPS that this complaint is being forwarded to DOJ and provided your contact information. A copy of our letter to Complainant as well as the original complaint are enclosed.

If you have any 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

External Civil Rights Compliance Office, (Mail Code 2310A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Sincerely,

Lilian S. Dorka
Director
External Civil Rights Compliance Office
Office of General Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Kenneth Redden
Acting Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights and Finance Law Office

Kenneth Lapierre
Assistant Regional Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
U.S. EPA Region 4