Harrison, Brenda

From: Clark, Renee
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2015 1:18 PM
To: Covington, Jeryl
Cc: Harrison, Brenda
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Civil Rights Contact Us About Civil Rights form

Received via the OCR website. Please handle as appropriate.

-----Original Message-----
From: drupal_admin@epa.gov [mailto:drupal_admin@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2015 8:55 AM
To: Clark, Renee <Clark.Renee@epa.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: Civil Rights Contact Us About Civil Rights form

Submitted on 10/22/2015 8:54AM
Submitted values are:

Name [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Comments:
United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Civil Rights (1201A)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20460

Community
Vs
New Jersey Department of Education
Trenton School District
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs City of Trenton

In October of 2014, the Trenton Board of Education voted unanimously to demolish Trenton Central High School. On or about April 1, 2015, preconstruction activities began at Trenton Central High School. These preconstruction activities included, but not limited to: demolition, remediation and site investigation. The Trenton School District and Jersey Department of Education failed to adhere to State regulations regarding demolition and preconstruction activities. For example, preconstruction activities cannot begin until a School District has an approved Long-range facilities plan. Preconstruction activities began at TCHS although the LRFP was not approved until June 1, 2015 in violation of (NJAC 6A:26-3.9b.) The
2007 LRFP expired in 2012. In addition, the Trenton School District failed to close 400 Chamber St. pursuant to (NJAC 6A:26-7.5). The Trenton School District as the owner of 400 Chamber St, has refuse to hire a project manager with a background specifically in construction, environmental remediation, and architecture to oversee the activities of the contractor hired by the Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA), in an unbiased manner.
On or about May 8, 2015, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provided conditional approval to commence demolition activities. The DEP noted that a licensed site remediation professional was not on site. The DEP also detected high-levels of contamination at this site.
An Environmental Assessment report was competed for 400 Chambers St.
However, the report was falsified.
Thus far, various wings have been demolished at Trenton Central High School.

The "A" and "D" wings remain standing. The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has issued demolition permits. However, the "A "and "D" wings are also slated for demolition, although the remediation remains incomplete. The B, C, E, and F wings have already been demolished although remediation was not finished. Air monitors were installed at 400 Chambers Street. However, these air monitors were defective and manipulated by the contractor to prevent an accurate reporting of air quality. The City of Trenton has "shut off water" at 400 Chambers St. which has allowed the demolition contractor to be eligible to apply for a demolition permit. The City of Trenton also "shut off" water although the Trenton School District, failed to officially close Trenton Central High School in accordance with State regulations.

On or about September 11, 2015, dust, asbestos and other harmful chemicals were released into the air. The contractor has been observed "knowingly" releasing contamination into the air (see video).

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=14uvCojtSg8

Pedestrians have experienced respiratory problems walking down Chambers St.

Residents have complained of sickness. Students using athletic fields have complained of respiratory problems. Visitors at Saint Francis Hospital have complained of air pollution. Residents have also complained about the ground shaking.

On or about October 15, 2015, the Trenton School District, City of Trenton, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection was notified about the environmental problems and violations at 400 Chamber St. On or about 9/15/15, the New Jersey State Ethics Commission, New Jersey Board of Examiners, New Jersey Schools Ethics Commission, New Jersey State Board of Examiners, and the New Jersey Office of Attorney Ethics was been notified to report the ethical violations and hold various individuals accountable.

According to the New Jersey Department of Education, the ethnic breakdown of students at Trenton Central High School is 49.7% Black and 47.6% Hispanic (2013-2014 School Year). According to the United States Census, the ethnic breakdown for the City of Trenton is 33.7% Hispanic and 52% Black.

The failure of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton School District, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, City of Trenton, New Jersey Department of Education to protect the environment will have an adverse impact on the environment, in violation of the Clean Air Act and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

Web Area: Civil Rights