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

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OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS

The Honorable Lamar Smith
Chairman
Committee on Science, Space and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing today to supplement the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's responses of May 20, August 3, August 24, September 14, and October 14, to your letters of May 4, and June 7, 2016, in which you request certain documents and communications referring to or related to the agency's glyphosate Cancer Assessment Review Committee report.

As we indicated in our letters, and in recent communications with your staff, the EPA is in the process of collecting and reviewing the requested documents and communications. While this process continues, we are now able to produce a set of responsive documents.

Please note that portions of your request examine internal deliberations of an Executive Branch agency, the EPA, and, as such, raise a confidentiality interest. In order to identify specific documents in which the EPA has a confidentiality interest, we have added a watermark to these documents that reads "Internal Deliberative Document of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Disclosure Authorized Only to Congress for Oversight Purposes." Through this accommodation, the EPA does not waive any confidentiality interests in these documents or similar documents in other circumstances. The EPA respectfully requests that the Committee and staff protect the documents and the information contained in them from further dissemination. Should the Committee determine that its legislative mandate requires further distribution of this confidential information outside the Committee, we request that such need first be discussed with the agency to help ensure the Executive Branch's confidentiality interests are protected to the fullest extent possible.

You will notice that some of the documents contain redactions of non-responsive, or non-substantive material, such as personal privacy information. We redacted this information in a manner that does not obscure the identity of any EPA employees involved in the relevant communications.

The EPA recognizes the importance of the Committee's need to obtain information necessary to perform its legitimate oversight functions, and is committed to continuing to work with your staff on how best to accommodate the Committee's interests in the documents requested in your letter.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Tom Dickerson in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at dickerson.tom@epa.gov or (202) 564-3638.

Sincerely,

Nichole Distefano
Associate Administrator

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member