UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

APR 17 2020

The Honorable James Comer
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
200 North Main Street, Suite F
Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167

Dear Congressman Comer:

Thank you for your April 3, 2020 letter to Mr. Joseph Brazauskas, Associate Administrator for Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Keith Tarter, concerning an enforcement matter. Your letter was forwarded to the Region 4 Office in Atlanta, Georgia, for a response.

The EPA recently entered into an Administrative Order on Consent with Tarter Gate Wood Products, LLC (Tarter), to address violations of section 404 of the Clean Water Act. These include the unauthorized discharge of dredged and/or fill material into approximately 2,900 linear feet of an unnamed perennial tributary of Turkey Creek and approximately 1,700 linear feet of perennial tributaries that flow into the unnamed tributary of Turkey Creek near Mintonville, Kentucky. These violations resulted from use of the tributary as a haul road for heavy equipment during silviculture operations. The EPA continues to communicate with Mr. Tarter regarding this matter. Because this is an ongoing enforcement action, the EPA is unable to provide any additional details at this time.

If you have questions or need additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Brandi Jenkins, in the Region 4 Outreach and External Engagement Office, at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

Mary S. Walker
Regional Administrator