Message

From: Gerhard, Sasha [Gerhard.Sasha@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/13/2016 8:22:03 PM
To: Kohler, Amanda [Kohler.Amanda@epa.gov]
CC: Galbraith, Michael [Galbraith.Michael@epa.gov]; Shuster, Kenneth [Shuster.Kenneth@epa.gov]; Abdul-Malik, Norma [Abdul-Malik.Norma@epa.gov]; Gaines, Jeff [Gaines.Jeff@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Citizen Issue w/r/to OB/OD

Will do!

Sasha Gerhard
USEPA, Office of Resource Conservation & Recovery
Program Implementation & Information Division, 5303P
703-347-8964 (P)
703-308-0509 (F)

From: Kohler, Amanda
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 4:17 PM
To: Gerhard, Sasha <Gerhard.Sasha@epa.gov>
Cc: Galbraith, Michael <Galbraith.Michael@epa.gov>; Shuster, Kenneth <Shuster.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Abdul-Malik, Norma <Abdul-Malik.Norma@epa.gov>; Gaines, Jeff <Gaines.Jeff@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Citizen Issue w/r/to OB/OD

Sasha,

Per the below email string, can you please reach out to Ms. Olah to schedule a time for us to talk with her?

Amanda Kohler
703-347-8975

From: Sasseville, Sonya
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 2:54 PM
To: Victorine, Gary <victorine.gary@epa.gov>; Devlin, Betsy <Devlin.Betsy@epa.gov>
Cc: Elliott, Ross <Elliott.Ross@epa.gov>; Guerriero, Margaret <guerriero.margaret@epa.gov>; Harris, Michael <harris.michael@epa.gov>; Kohler, Amanda <Kohler.Amanda@epa.gov>; Guernica, Mimi <Guernica.Mimi@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Citizen Issue w/r/to OB/OD

Hi, Gary,

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks,
Sonya

From: Victorine, Gary
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 2:38 PM
To: Devlin, Betsy <Devlin.Betsy@epa.gov>; Sasseville, Sonya <Sasseville.Sonya@epa.gov>

Cc: Elliott, Ross <Elliott.Ross@epa.gov>; Guerriero, Margaret <guerriero.margaret@epa.gov>; Harris, Michael <harris.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: Citizen Issue w/r/to OB/OD

Hi Betsy and Sonya--

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Thanks.

Gary Victorine
Chief, RCRA Branch
Land and Chemicals Division
U.S. EPA Region 5
312-886-1479

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I recently spoke with a concerned citizen by the name of Laura Olah on March 17, who lives near an Army site in Wisconsin. She had sent an email request to talk directly with Bob Kaplan; Her organization – the CEASE FIRE Campaign -- wants to petition the various RA's to raise her organization's issue to the Administrator, to give their support for EPA HQ's current and future efforts on updating the rules with respect to OD/OD/Incineration of waste energetics. Reportedly, all the local chapters of the CEASE FIRE campaign were trying to contact their local RAs for this purpose. They are not raising any complaints, they just want to emphasize the importance of EPA's efforts to the communities surrounding military facilities where OB/OD is occurring, and voice their support for EPA HQ's current and future efforts to eliminate OB/OD/incin as the preferred methods for the military to destroy explosives and propellants.

The CEASE FIRE campaign is a national group of almost 100 communities affected by OB/OD/incineration of these materials, and they are all trying to similarly contact their local EPA Regional Administrators.

The CEASE FIRE campaign seeks to protect human health and the environment by calling for the immediate implementation of safer alternatives to open air burning, detonation and non-closed loop incineration/combustion of military munitions. For more info, please see the attachment and/or http://cswab.org/resources/cease-fire-campaign

According to Ms. Olah, EPA HQs is reportedly already considering this matter. Laura reminded me that some years back, when there was a very similar concern over the Army incinerating its

nerve agents and other chemical weapons, the National Academy of Sciences was tasked to evaluate various alternative technologies. The NAS's positive findings were an important catalyst in convincing the Army to begin favoring these newer technologies over traditional incineration (e.g., in R5, the Army had in ca. 1985 proposed to incinerate its stockpile of VX nerve agent in Newport Indiana, but the favorable NAS findings about non-incineration technology eventually lead to the Army NOT using incineration to destroy the VX). Ms. Olah would like to see the EPA bring in the NAS again, this time to evaluate the same technologies, but evaluate their effectiveness at destroying explosives and propellants.

It is my understanding that EPA's RCRA regs provide exemptions for folks to use OB/OD to destroy explosive materials, unless there is a good alternative. Those regs were written ca 1984, and Laura believes there are now safe alternatives to OB/OD and incineration of these materials.
--Gary Victorine

From: Victorine, Gary
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:33 AM
To: 'Laura Olah' <info@cswab.org>
Cc: Guerriero, Margaret <guerriero.margaret@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Your Email to EPA of March 11, 2016.

Hi Laura,
I've been asked to speak to you relative your issue or concern. Since you didn't state what the issue is, speaking to each other would give EPA a better understanding on how we can assist you best. Please let me know when we can speak by providing a time and date, and we can begin to move forward from that point.
Thanks Laura, I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Gary Victorine, Chief
RCRA Branch
Land and Chemicals Division
U.S. EPA Region 5
312-886-1479

From: Laura Olah [mailto:info@cswab.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:52 PM

To: Victorine, Gary <victorine.gary@epa.gov>
Cc: Guerriero, Margaret <guerriero.margaret@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Your Email to EPA of March 11, 2016.

Dear Gary,
First I have a general question. What is the correct procedure for a member of the public to secure an opportunity to speak with their Regional Administrator? Or is this something that is not allowed?
Laura

Laura Olah, Executive Director
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB)
(608)643-3124
info@cswab.org
www.cswab.org
www.twitter.com/CSWAB
www.facebook.com/cswab.org
http://cswab.org/resources/cease-fire-campaign

From: Victorine, Gary [mailto:victorine.gary@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 2:45 PM
To: info@cswab.org
Cc: Guerriero, Margaret
Subject: RE: Your Email to EPA of March 11, 2016.

Hi Laura—

I am the Chief of the RCRA Branch in the Land and Chemicals Division at EPA Region 5. My Division Director, Margaret Guerriero, let me know that Bob Kaplan would not be available to speak with you next week, but that I should reach out to you to answer your questions, or else determine the appropriate EPA programs to answer your questions.

Please either give me a call or let me know what issues you are interested in. Thanks very much, Laura, I look forward to talking to you.

Gary Victorine, Chief
RCRA Branch
Land and Chemicals Division
U.S. EPA Region 5
312-886-1479

From: Laura Olah <info@cswab.org>
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 3:10 PM
To: Kaplan, Robert
Subject: request to schedule phone conversation

Dear Administrator Kaplan,
I am writing to request the opportunity to speak with you by phone for 20 minutes sometime during the week of March 21-25. I am a national organizer for the Cease Fire Campaign. You may visit our webpage by way of introduction, and my contact information is below.
Thank you!
Laura

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Laura Olah, Executive Director
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB)
(608)643-3124
info@cswab.org
www.cswab.org
www.twitter.com/CSWAB
www.facebook.com/cswab.org
http://cswab.org/resources/cease-fire-campaign

left message 3/15/10:20
returned 3/15
-need response

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