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

MAR 17 2015

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Honorable Jon Tester
United State Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tester:

Thank you for your letter of January 8, 2015, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), encouraging the EPA and Governor Bullock to add the Anaconda Aluminum Company Columbia Falls Reduction Plant site in Columbia Falls, Montana to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) and your concerns about the community, the proximity to Glacier National Park, and the dangers posed by the cyanide and minerals leaching into the ground water.

On February 17, 2015, the EPA received a letter of support for placing this site on the NPL from Governor Bullock, who shares your concerns about long-term risks to the community and Montana's environment. The EPA has been evaluating the Anaconda Aluminum Company Columbia Falls Reduction Plant for inclusion on the NPL in March 2015. We plan to work with the state of Montana throughout the process of assessing and addressing the contamination and with the communities surrounding the site to understand and address their concerns.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder, in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, at *snyder.raquel@epa.gov*, or at (202) 564-9586.

Sincerely,

Mathy Stanislaus
Assistant Administrator

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