UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101-3188

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

JAN 29 2020

Ms. Tarah Heinzen
Senior Staff Attorney
Food & Water Watch
1616 P Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. Tyler Lobdell
Staff Attorney
Food & Water Watch
2009 NE Alberta Street
Portland, Oregon 97211

Dear Ms. Heinzen and Mr. Lobdell:

Thank you for your correspondence dated January 16, 2020, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Administrator Andrew Wheeler and myself, transmitting a petition requesting that the EPA take action using emergency authority in Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act to investigate and address persistent nitrate groundwater contamination in Oregon's Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area. Administrator Wheeler asked me to respond to your request.

The EPA is reviewing your petition and will respond further when we have completed our review.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Kenknight, Chief of our Water and Field Enforcement Branch, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division. He can be reached at (206) 553-6641.

Sincerely,

Chris Hladick
Regional Administrator