Message

From: Walts, Alan [walts.alan@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2020 5:53:11 PM
To: Harris, Michael [harris.michael@epa.gov]; Fong, Tera [Fong.Tera@epa.gov]; Nelson, Leverett [nelson.leverett@epa.gov]
CC: Triantafillou, Kathy [triantafillou.kathy@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Centreville update

Hi Mike, that's great to hear, thank you. We've been talking with Ryan Bahr and I believe WECAB has been talking w/ Illinois EPA as well. There is local litigation as well as state-led enforcement; and our team will need to stay in close coordination w/ ECAD & ORC as we focus on the EJ partnership request.

Best,
Alan

Director, Tribal and Multi-media Programs Office (TMPO)
U.S. EPA, Region 5
Phone: (312) 353-8894

From: Harris, Michael <harris.michael@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Fong, Tera <Fong.Tera@epa.gov>; Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>; Nelson, Leverett <nelson.leverett@epa.gov>
Cc: Triantafillou, Kathy <triantafillou.kathy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Centreville update

Hi Alan,
I too agree with this approach. I've asked my folks to let me know if we a State/Federal enforcement role for this.

Michael D. Harris
Director, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 886-0760

From: Fong, Tera <Fong.Tera@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 12:01 PM
To: Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>; Harris, Michael <harris.michael@epa.gov>; Nelson, Leverett <nelson.leverett@epa.gov>
Cc: Triantafillou, Kathy <triantafillou.kathy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Centreville update

Hi Alan,
Sorry for the late reply. I think the approach makes sense. I'd have to do a little more homework on our specific Regional experience and expertise with watershed planning, but I can certainly do that.

From: Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 11:23 AM

To: Fong, Tera <Fong.Tera@epa.gov>; Harris, Michael <harris.michael@epa.gov>; Nelson, Leverett <nelson.leverett@epa.gov>
Cc: Triantafillou, Kathy <triantafillou.kathy@epa.gov>
Subject: Centreville update

Hi – wanted to share this email in follow-up to the proposal I sent you all on Monday.

Best,
Alan

Director, Tribal and Multi-media Programs Office (TMPO)
U.S. EPA, Region 5
Phone: (312) 353-8894

From: Nicole D. Nelson <nnelson@equitylegalservices.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 10:56 AM
To: Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>
Cc: Debbie Chizewer <dchizewer@earthjustice.org>; kjackson@ehoc-stl.org; asewell@earthjustice.org; nospina@nrdc.org; mgeertsma@nrdc.org
Subject: Re: Updates and Phone Call

Hi Alan,
We are following up on scheduling the call.

Please find attached photos from yesterday. Centreville residents were inundated with stormwater from the broken stormwater and sanitary sewer systems. At least one resident could not access her home as of 7PM last night. Some residents were offered boats for rescue by St. Clair Emergency Management Agency.

Also, I continue to receive daily calls from residents in Cahokia who are experiencing the same. I received numerous calls from media last night and today who plan to cover yesterday's flooding.

We look forward to speaking with you and your team.

-Nicole

Nicole D. Nelson
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she/her/hers

On Fri, Jun 26, 2020 at 1:02 PM Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Debbie – understand, hope to be able to get back to you all by Monday afternoon.

Best,

Alan

Director, Tribal and Multi-media Programs Office (TMPO)
U.S. EPA, Region 5

Phone: (312) 353-8894

From: Debbie Chizewer <dchizewer@earthjustice.org>
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2020 12:53 PM
To: Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>; nnelson@equitylegalservices.org
Cc: kjackson@ehoc-stl.org; asewell@earthjustice.org; nospina@nrdc.org; mgeertsma@nrdc.org
Subject: RE: Updates and Phone Call

Hi Alan,

Thanks for checking with your team on dates. We are eager to have a call as soon as possible.

Best,

Debbie

Debbie Chizewer

Managing Attorney, Midwest Office

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From: Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 9:10 AM
To: nnelson@equitylegalservices.org
Cc: Debbie Chizewer <dchizewer@earthjustice.org>; kjackson@ehoc-stl.org; Anna Sewell <asewell@earthjustice.org>; nospina@nrdc.org; mgeertsma@nrdc.org
Subject: RE: Updates and Phone Call

Hi Nicole – thanks much for the update and attachments; I will talk to our team and look for possible dates for a call, then get back to you as soon as possible.

Best,

Alan

Director, Tribal and Multi-media Programs Office (TMPO)
U.S. EPA, Region 5

Phone: (312) 353-8894

From: Nicole D. Nelson <nnelson@equitylegalservices.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 8:43 AM
To: Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>
Cc: Debbie Chizewer <dchizewer@earthjustice.org>; Kalila Jackson <kjackson@ehoc-stl.org>; Anna Sewell

<asewell@earthjustice.org>; Ospina, Natalia <nospina@nrdc.org>; mgeertsma@nrdc.org
Subject: Updates and Phone Call

Hi Alan,

I hope you are doing well. Our team is reaching out to provide you with a few updates and to determine your availability for a call.

When we last spoke we mentioned that we were close to filing litigation. On 6/5, two organizations from our team (mine and Kalila Jackson from EHOC) filed a Complaint for Injunctive Relief in the Southern District of Illinois. I have attached those pleadings for you and your team's review.

Since that filing, several newspapers have covered the filing, including the St. Louis Post Dispatch, Belleville News Democrat, St. Louis NPR, Madison St. Clair Record, and the Southern Illinoisan. We have received numerous phone calls, emails, emails received from these publications forwarded to us from residents in Centreville and many from Cahokia asking for help because of raw sewage in their homes and yards and stormwater flooding in their neighborhoods.

While our team is aware that these surrounding municipalities have been struggling with similar issues and would love to be able to dedicate resources and time to assist everyone, unfortunately, we do not have the resources available to do so. We barely have the resources needed (and often run into many barriers) to assist the Centreville residents.

We would like to schedule a call with you and any other members of your team you believe it would be helpful to have on the call to have a more substantive discussion with clear steps on what it would take to start building environmental justice partnerships and begin bringing in resources in the metro-east to include all of these predominantly black and/or low-income communities that are suffering from these flooding and raw sewage issues.

We are greatly appreciative of the interest you and your team have shown in wanting to help resolve the issues in Centreville and we hope we can all work together to resolve these conditions.

Thanks and we look forward to speaking with you.

-Nicole

Doc #1--Complaint.pdf

Doc #2- Motion for Injunctive Relief.pdf

Doc #3--Memorandum in Support of Plaintiffs' Co...

Exhibits A-L-Combined-filed.pdf

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