UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1201 ELM STREET, SUITE 500
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

Office of the Regional Administrator

July 26, 2021

Zenille Saunders, Regulatory Services Leader, Louisiana, Southeast
Union Carbide - St. Charles Operations Dow
21255 Hwy 1 South
Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764
zsaunders@dow.com

Dear Ms. Saunders:

On March 31, 2020, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) issued a Management Alert (https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/report-management-alert-prompt-action-needed-inform-residents-living-near) that identified an urgent need to educate and inform residents around these facilities about the health hazards of ethylene oxide (EtO) after the 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment was released. As EPA pursues its mission to protect human health and the environment, addressing risk related to EtO is a priority for the Agency. EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan has directed several EPA Regions to update information on emissions and risk in areas identified in the 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment. Administrator Regan has made it clear that EPA will lean forward and conduct community outreach to ensure all communities are informed, especially those that are underserved.

As one of the eight Texas and Louisiana chemical plants identified in the OIG Management Alert, the EPA has completed a facility/area specific technical assessment for your facility identified below.

> Union Carbide Corporation - St. Charles Operations
> 355 LA Highway 3142
> Hahnville, Louisiana 70057

This letter is to notify you that we will be releasing the technical assessment and will soon announce a virtual community meeting to provide residents and public officials near the Union Carbide Corporation – St. Charles Operations facility with information about EtO and its health effects, including community-specific risk information. Enclosed please find an advance copy of the technical assessment report. This information will be available and shared at the community meeting and will be made available on the EPA website later this week.

We are appreciative of your cooperation and activities to voluntarily reduce and/or more accurately report emissions of ethylene oxide from your facility. We continue to encourage actions to further reduce and control emissions of ethylene oxide from your facility.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 665-2100 or Frances Verhalen at (214)-665-2172.

Sincerely,

David W. Gray
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Technical Assessment Report Union Carbide