Message

From: Mutter, Andrew [mutter.andrew@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/11/2019 8:58:45 PM
To: Wall, Dan [wall.dan@epa.gov]; Partridge, Charles [Partridge.Charles@epa.gov]; Greene, Nikia [Greene.Nikia@epa.gov]; Barnicoat, Dana [Barnicoat.Dana@epa.gov]; Mylott, Richard [Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]
CC: Spence, Sandra [Spence.Sandra@epa.gov]; Smidinger, Betsy [Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov]; Urdiales, Aaron [Urdiales.Aaron@epa.gov]; Vranka, Joe [vranka.joe@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Questions for Charles Partridge or whoever you'd like to answer them

Thx Dan. You're invited to participate. We'll initiate the call from my office.

Best regards,

Andrew

Andrew Mutter

Director, Public Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (Denver, CO)

Office: 303.312.6448
Cell: 720.520.3047

Twitter: @EPARegion8
Facebook: U.S. EPA Region 8
Webpage: EPA Region 8 (Mountains and Plains)

From: Wall, Dan <wall.dan@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 1:53 PM
To: Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Partridge, Charles <Partridge.Charles@epa.gov>; Greene, Nikia <Greene.Nikia@epa.gov>; Barnicoat, Dana <Barnicoat.Dana@epa.gov>; Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Spence, Sandra <Spence.Sandra@epa.gov>; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>; Urdiales, Aaron <Urdiales.Aaron@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Questions for Charles Partridge or whoever you'd like to answer them

Thanks Andrew
Charlie and I went thru these quickly. I do not think question 10 lends itself to a verbal reply. There is too much to unpack. I request that we pull that one, provide a written response and offer to have a follow up with him if he has questions regarding our response. I will try to attend the interview at 3 in to listen if that's ok.

From: Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 12:52 PM
To: Partridge, Charles <Partridge.Charles@epa.gov>; Greene, Nikia <Greene.Nikia@epa.gov>; Barnicoat, Dana <Barnicoat.Dana@epa.gov>; Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Wall, Dan <wall.dan@epa.gov>; Spence, Sandra <Spence.Sandra@epa.gov>; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>; Urdiales, Aaron <Urdiales.Aaron@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Questions for Charles Partridge or whoever you'd like to answer them

Charlie and Nikia. We'll go over our approach during the prep session this afternoon.

Best regards,

Andrew

Andrew Mutter

Director, Public Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (Denver, CO)

Office: 303.312.6448
Cell: 720.520.3047

Twitter: @EPARegion8
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From: David McCumber <David.McCumber@mtstandard.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 12:48 PM
To: Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>
Subject: Questions for Charles Partridge or whoever you'd like to answer them

1. What response did you receive at health working group meeting to the presentation? I believe Dr. Hailer was on the call. Were either McDermott or Read on the call? Have you heard from them subsequently?
2. Is it true that Hailer, McDermott, Read et al or any of them individually have refused to share leftover samples or datasets with you?
3. What is the current status of this?
4. If you do not get the samples/data, what are your next steps?
5. Have you talked with Arbuckle or any of the other scientists involved in the MIREC study?
6. Do Hailer, McDermott, et al know specifically who peer-reviewed their material? Do you?
7. Specifically, what response did you get from the researchers as to your conclusion that all of the Butte levels fall into the range of other published levels found at not-necessarily-polluted localities?
8. Have you talked with NIEH about why the institute did not fund the grant request from the researchers for a larger study?
9. Have you seen the McDermott brain-tumor study that is apparently about to be published?
10. Taken as a whole, the McDermott research – the mortality studies, the meconium study, and the apparently soon-to-be-published brain tumor study – all have raised and will raise levels of concern about Butte and Anaconda's overall health. Do you take issue with the way these studies have been presented to the public by McDermott and others? In some ways, though, doesn't that concern make it all the more imperative that the decades-long shadow of health concern that falls on Butte be definitively swept aside by a thoroughgoing ATSDR study, similar to what was done in Anaconda? Can you comment about whether such a study is currently contemplated (or provided for in the CD)?
11. I understand CDC/ATSDR was also on the call. Are you working directly with scientists there? Who are they? By any chance can you direct me to the correct person within that agency to query for this story?
12. Given the public agencies, including EPA that were represented on the health working group, shouldn't those meetings be public? I know that Atlantic Richfield is the convenor in a way, but without public access doesn't that color the perception of what this group is?