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

Office of the Regional Administrator

June 14, 2021

Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Post Office Box 4314
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4314

RE: Extension of EPA's Continuous Air Monitoring Program near the Denka Performance Elastomer Facility in LaPlace, La.

Dear Dr. Brown,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) thanks you and your staff for supporting EPA's air quality monitoring efforts in LaPlace, Louisiana. In our letter to you dated March 30, 2021, we shared EPA's plan to extend the Continuous Air Monitoring Program while EPA is evaluating the information requested from the Denka Performance Elastomer, LLC facility.

The Continuous Air Monitoring Program has been successful at identifying certain elevated chloroprene measurements. Information specific to the date and time of those certain monitoring results is being evaluated to help identify unknown or under-characterized emissions sources or activities at the Denka Performance Elastomer, LLC facility. At this time, EPA intends to continue operating the Continuous Air Monitoring Program.

During this time, EPA is also considering other ambient air monitoring programs that will provide new and meaningful monitoring data. Any changes or updates to any of EPA's air monitoring efforts in LaPlace will also be included on our LaPlace, Louisiana – Air Monitoring website: https://www.epa.gov/la/laplace-louisiana-air-monitoring-0. From that website, a link can be found where EPA will continue posting chloroprene sampling results from the Continuous Air Monitoring Program: https://www.epa.gov/la/denka-air-monitoring-data-summary.

Thank you again for your support in these efforts to monitor air quality in LaPlace.

Sincerely,

David W. Gray
Acting Regional Administrator