Message

From: Hamre, Martha [Hamre.Martha@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/18/2022 10:59:06 PM
To: Connell, Rebecca [Connell.Rebecca@epa.gov]
CC: Tekrony, Linda [Tekrony.Linda@epa.gov]; Schneider, Matthew [Schneider.Matthew@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: MaFW: ITC Deer Park Inquiry — Public Health Watch
Attachments: Re: Interview request — Mr. Daniel Hoyt

Rebecca –

Matt was contacted by a reporter and we referred the reporter to George Hull and Region 6 press office. Looks like they also want to talk to Dan Hoyt about a different inspection at the same facility. They included sample questions.

As you see below, Mary Greene and Greg Fried are OK with the interviews if they can listen in. Any issues with Matt participating in an interview? I have asked Matt to discuss with us internally before responding.

Martha

Martha Hamre
EPA/OECA/OCEFT/NEIC
Civil Services Section Chief, Field Branch
Denver Federal Center
Building 25
Denver, CO 80225
Phone: 303-462-9271
Mobile: 720-666-9274

From: Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 3:06 PM
To: Schneider, Matthew <Schneider.Matthew@epa.gov>; Hamre, Martha <Hamre.Martha@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: MaFW: ITC Deer Park Inquiry — Public Health Watch

Matt,
The reporter is interested in interviewing you about the inspection report. He sent some sample questions (attached). He has also asked to interview Dan Hoyt about a separate inspection he conducted at the same facility. Mary Greene and Greg Fried indicated that they would be o.k. with the interviews proceeding if they were on background. The reporter has agreed to that condition. I was hoping to speak with about it and see if you are comfortable proceeding with an interview, when you have a minute. Thanks, George

From: Schneider, Matt <Schneider.Matthew@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:12 AM
To: Hamre, Martha <Hamre.Martha@epa.gov>
Cc: Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>
Subject: MaFW: ITC Deer Park Inquiry — Public Health Watch

Martha, this is my reply to the reporter yesterday. George, an FYI that I was contacted by a reported regarding an inspection we conducted in 2016. Thanks,
-Matt

Matthew Schneider
Chemical Engineer, Field Branch

US EPA National Enforcement Investigations Center
303-462-9292

From: Schneider, Matt
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 11:40 AM
To: David Leffler <dleffler@publichealthwatch.org>
Subject: RE: ITC Deer Park Inquiry — Public Health Watch

Hi David,

Thank you for reaching out. Unfortunately I'm not authorized to speak to the public about our inspection and enforcement activities. I'll have to refer you to EPA's office of Media Relations. You can contact them by email at press@epa.gov. The OECA point of contact for press relations is Melissa Sullivan,sullivan.melissa@epa.gov or George Hull, Hull.george@epa.gov.

EPA Region 6 also has public affairs liaisons, who can be reached at r6press@epa.gov. I'm sorry I can't be of more assistance to your story, but I look forward to reading it when it is published.

Matthew Schneider
Chemical Engineer, Field Branch
US EPA National Enforcement Investigations Center
303-462-9292

From: David Leffler <dleffler@publichealthwatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:14 PM
To: Schneider, Matthew <Schneider.Matthew@epa.gov>
Subject: ITC Deer Park Inquiry — Public Health Watch

Good afternoon Mr. Schneider,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is David Leffler and I'm a reporter with Public Health Watch — a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization focused on threats to America's well-being.

I'm reaching out because I'm currently working on a story looking back at the 2019 fire at the Intercontinental Terminal Company's facility in Deer Park, Texas. Specifically, I'm hoping to better understand the facility's culture and history, including past violations and similar aspects of EPA and TCEQ oversight. I came across your 2016 inspection of the facility (which has been very helpful) and am interested in learning more about your experience there.

I'm not sure in what capacity you can speak with me about this matter, but if at all possible, I'd love to tell you more about this project and how your past inspection ties in. Even if it's just on background, I'd appreciate any input and insight you can provide.

Thanks in advance for your time and consideration here, Mr. Schneider. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions or concerns that I can help address.

Best regards,
David Leffler
512-947-6436

--

David Leffler

Reporter

This Internet Image Contains Copyright. The Text may have been moved, enlarged, modified, and/or deleted. Verify that the Internet or the Internet Site will be liable.