UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7
11201 RENNER BOULEVARD
LENEXA, KS 66219

OCT 22 2015

OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Ingrid Clark-Jackson
Interim Superintendent
Hazelwood School District
15955 New Halls Ferry Road
Florissant, Missouri 63031

Dear Dr. Clark-Jackson:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency manages the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site and I would like to take a moment to speak with you and your families about the site. It is vitally important to all of us at the EPA that those who live in the areas around the West Lake Landfill know and understand the science-based facts regarding the contamination and what current risks the wastes may pose.

In addition to the numerous studies the EPA has conducted, we continue to work in partnership with top experts from the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Recently the EPA asked the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, a part of HHS, to conduct a health consultation to determine if radiological contamination at the West Lake Landfill might harm human health. The ATSDR's mission is to protect public health by using the best science to provide trusted health information and make recommendations to prevent harmful exposures.

The ATSDR report released last week found that there is no migration of contaminants from the landfill in the surrounding residential areas; that groundwater from the site will not harm people's health (groundwater flows away from residential areas and is not being used as a public water supply); and that there is no evidence of contamination along roads leading to the landfill. Also, while outdoor radon near the landfill seems to be greater than typical regional and national background levels, these levels are not high enough to harm people's health.

At the EPA, your safety continues to be our top priority. There is no immediate threat of a release of radiological materials from the West Lake Landfill related to the subsurface smoldering event in the south quarry of the Bridgeton Landfill and there are no current or imminent health risks offsite. To ensure that public health is protected on and near the landfill, the EPA will continue actions that are consistent with ATSDR's recommendations: groundwater monitoring, including wells previously sampled onsite and offsite; prevent offsite migration of contaminants; air monitoring for radon at the landfill; and ensure adequate dust control measures are in place if onsite soils are disturbed.

The EPA is committed to protecting human health and the environment now and into the future. We will continue to engage with citizens, consult with scientific experts and work with our state and federal partners to keep the public informed and updated about activities at the West Lake Landfill. Our duty to

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the people of the St. Louis area is to provide a final cleanup remedy for the site and we are working to complete the necessary investigation work to support a final remedy decision that will ensure that human health and the environment remain protected from the contaminants in the future.

We want the lines of communication about the landfill to be open and productive and encourage residents to visit http://www3.epa.gov/region07/cleanup/west_lake_landfill/ for public meeting notices, correspondence and reports.

I hope you will share this letter with the parents in your school district. I would also welcome the opportunity for the EPA to attend an upcoming school board meeting so we can share this information with the board and answer any of their questions. Please feel free to let us know how we can provide more information to you or your school board. My point of contact is Mr. Ben Washburn at (913) 551-7364 or washburn.ben@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Hague
Acting Regional Administrator