UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP 12 2014

Return Receipt Requested
Certified Mail#: 7004-1160-0002-3622-9063

In Reply Refer to:
EPA File No.: 11R-14-R4

Tom Reeder
Director, Division of Water Resources
Division of Water Resources
North Carolina Department of Environment
and Natural Resources
1611 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1611

Re: Notification of Receipt of Administrative Complaint

Dear Mr. Reeder:

This is to notify you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Civil Rights (OCR), received an administrative complaint on September 4, 2014, alleging that the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DNER) violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and EPA's nondiscrimination regulations found at 40 C.F.R Part 7. (A copy of the redacted complaint is enclosed.)

OCR is responsible for processing and investigating complaints alleging discrimination by programs or activities that receive financial assistance from EPA. Pursuant to EPA's nondiscrimination regulations, OCR will review the complaint for acceptance, rejection, or referral to another Federal agency. 40 C.F.R. §7.120(d)(1). Once this jurisdictional review is completed, OCR will notify you about its decision.

EPA's nondiscrimination regulations also provide that OCR must attempt to resolve complaints informally whenever possible (40 C.F.R. §7.120(d)(2). Accordingly, if the complaint is accepted for investigation, OCR may discuss offers to informally resolve the complaint, and may, to the extent appropriate, facilitate an informal resolution process with the involvement of affected stakeholders.

In the interim, if you have any questions about the status of this complaint, please contact Ericka Farrell of my staff at (202) 564-0717, via e-mail at farrell.ericka@epa.gov, or via mail at U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.

Sincerely,

Helena Wooden-Aguilar
Acting Deputy Director
Office of Civil Rights

Enclosures

cc: Kevin Redden, Assistant General Counsel
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office (MC 2399A)

Ken LaPierre, Deputy Civil Rights Official
EPA Region IV

Naima Halim-Chestnut, EEO Officer
EPA Region IV

Beverly Banister, Title VI Contact
EPA Region IV