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

July 12, 2016

OFFICE OF
CIVIL RIGHTS

Return Receipt Requested
Certified Mail#: 7015 3430 0001 1742 9724

In Reply Refer to:
EPA File No.: 37R-16-R4

Donald R. van der Vaart
Secretary
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
1611 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1611

Re: **Acknowledgment of Receipt of Administrative Correspondence**

Dear Mr. van der Vaart:

This letter is to notify you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Civil Rights (OCR), received correspondence on Monday, July 11, 2016, alleging that the North Carolina Department of Environment Quality (NCDEQ) 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.

The OCR is responsible for processing and resolving complaints alleging discrimination by programs or activities that receive financial assistance from the EPA. OCR will review the correspondence in light of EPA's nondiscrimination regulation to determine whether it is a complaint that falls within OCR's jurisdiction. Once this jurisdictional review is completed, the OCR will notify you as to whether it will accept this complaint for investigation or reject, or refer the complaint to another Federal agency.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Case Manager Ericka Farrell, at (202) 564-0717, or by e-mail at farrell.ericka@epa.gov, or U.S. mail at U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20460-1000, or me at (202) 564-9649, or by e-mail at dorka.lilian@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Lilian S. Dorka
Acting Director
Office of Civil Rights

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cc: Elise Packard
Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

Ken Lapierre
Assistant Regional Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
U.S. EPA Region IV