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Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator
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To Whom This May Concern:

I, (b) (6), as a resident of Louisiana, join other residents, workers, and families in the call for a safer alternative to open burning of hazardous wastes at Camp Minden.

We oppose the plan by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to OPEN BURN 15 million pounds of abandoned M6 propellants at Camp Minden, Louisiana. By definition, open burning has no emissions control and will result in the uncontrolled release of toxic emissions and respirable particulates to the environment. M6 contains approximately 10 percent dinitrotoluene (DNT) which is classified as a probable human carcinogen.

Concerns for the potential human health risk created by open burning/open detonation as well as for environmental impacts on the air, soil, and water have required the military to identify and develop alternatives to open burning/open detonation treatment. Moreover, as the United States Environmental Protection Agency's plan provides for the safe handling and transport to an open burning area, these wastes could be similarly moved to an alternative treatment facility or system.

While I support the US EPA's initiative to require the US Army to clean up and dispose of these improperly stored explosive wastes, we do not support open burning as a remedy given the inherent and avoidable risks to human health and the environment.

I personally reside less than 10 miles from the location of Camp Minden and am extremely concerned about this. A response on your behalf is greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much for your time and concern in this manner.

Sincerely,

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