Lisa Johnson & Associates

Attorneys and Advisors

December 18, 2021

Via email at Title_VI_Complaints@epa.gov

Merrick B. Garland, Attorney General of the United States Michael S. Regan, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency c/o U.S. EPA External Civil Rights Compliance Office (2310A) 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Complaint of Discrimination U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's External Civil Rights Compliance Office ("ECRCO")^{Ex. (6), 7(C)} and Ex. (6), 7(C), Appellants, v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection, Appellees (see 1273 CD 2021 (Pa. Comm. Ct); (2021 EHB 013) (Environmental Hearing Board).

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I represent Ex.(6), 7(C) and Ex.(6), 7(C), (jointly and severally, ("Landowners")). The purpose of this letter is to file a complaint of civil rights violations ("Complaint") by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Health, Governor Tom Wolf and Lt. Governor John Fetterman. Landowners requested an investigation into their water supply to the DEP on July 7, 2020 and subsequently the Department of Health, over one year ago, resulting in permanent damages to their persons, their home and the environment. PADEP has stated that PADEP's investigation is ongoing over a year later and has provided no assistance.

We request that the EPA and DOJ read through the exhibits (A through G) to this letter to better understand the widespread constitutional violations by this administration, resulting in grave harms to landowners in general and the environment. Landowners include their Petition for Review and Docketing Statement filed in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania (1273 CD 2021) Landowners have been before the Pennsylvania Hearing Board since May 15, 2021 and all such pleading, papers and filings as listed on the docket sheet are included here herein by reference. The EHB dismissed Landowners' appeal as the EHB was only presented with PADEP's failures, of which the EHB states it has no authority to review mere "failures" by PADEP. We will be filing separate complaints against the EHB and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

My clients have met the following requirements to file an ECRCO civil rights complaint ("**Complaint**") against the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Health ("**PADOH**"), Governor Tom Wolf and Lt. Governor John Fetterman:

1. All contact related to the Complaint or otherwise shall be made through counsel using the contact information below;

2. The PADOH is the entity that committed and continues to commit discrimination of Landowners' civil rights;

3. PADOH discriminated against $E^{x. (6), 7(C)}$ and $E^{x. (6), 7(C)}$ by denying, obstructing, delaying, intimidating and retaliating against my clients, and also discriminating against Landowners' due to their age, which is prohibited under Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Among other things, Landowners lost their home, lost much of their livelihood, and Landowners' health was gravely affected by such discrimination (specific examples are described more fully in Exhibits A through G enclosed with this letter)¹; and

4. PADOH and this administration's civil rights violations are ongoing; therefore this complaint is made within 180 days of civil rights' violations.

Landowners are outspent and outstaffed by PADOH, PADEP and oil and gas operators² and desperately need the oversight of the EPA. Governor Tom Wolf and Lt. Governor participated as PADEP and PADOH worked in concert with oil and gas operators resulting in, among other things, the violations of my clients' civil rights and widespread, unabated pollution. Landowners will be requesting investigations into the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, each of which are complicit in the civil rights violations of Landowners and those yet to come.³

Please let us know if we need to send additional information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Lisa Johnson</u> Lisa Johnson, Esq. PA ID 200101 *Counsel for*^{Ex. (6), 7(C)} *and*^{Ex. (6), 7(C)} Lisa Johnson and Associates 10675 Perry Highway #8 Wexford, PA 15090

Ex. (6), 7(C)

³ See Article I, Section 27, Pennsylvania's Environmental Rights Amendment, which states: The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

cc: Pennsylvania Attorney General Joshua D. Shapiro, Esq. (via email and First-Class Mail)