

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

February 2, 2016

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

In Reply Refer to: EPA File No. 23U-15-R9

(b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) Enf. Privacy

Re: Acknowledgement of Receipt and Rejection of Electronic Correspondence

Dear (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) Enf. Privacy

This is to notify you that on August 14, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Civil Rights (OCR) received your electronic correspondence dated August 12, 2015, concerning the indoor air quality threat posed by mold and poor air circulation in Room at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Sacramento, California. OCR construed your correspondence as a complaint. After careful consideration, the OCR has concluded that it cannot accept your complaint for investigation as the jurisdictional requirements are not satisfied.

The OCR is responsible for processing and investigating complaints alleging discrimination by programs or activities that receive financial assistance from the EPA. To be accepted for investigation, a complaint must meet jurisdictional requirements described in the EPA's nondiscrimination regulations. First, it must be in writing. Second, it must describe an alleged discriminatory act that, if true, would violate the EPA's nondiscrimination regulations (i.e., an alleged discriminatory act based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability). Third, it must be filed within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act. Finally, the complaint must be filed against an applicant for, or recipient of, EPA assistance, which has allegedly committed the discriminatory act.

Your complaint does not describe an alleged discriminatory act that may violate the EPA's nondiscrimination regulations. Additionally, it does not attribute any wrongdoing to a recipient of, or current applicant for, EPA financial assistance. The DoubleTree by Hilton neither receives nor is it an applicant for EPA financial assistance. For the reasons stated, the OCR is rejecting your complaint because it fails to satisfy this jurisdictional criteria.

(b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) Enf. Privacy

You may wish to contact the California Department of Public Health, Indoor Air Quality Section regarding your concerns on the indoor air quality of the DoubleTree by Hilton. Its contact information is:

CDPH Indoor Air Quality Section Chief Dr. Kazukiyo Kumagai 850 Marina Bay Parkway (EHLB) Richmond, CA 94804-6403. staff.caliaq@gmail.com

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact Jonathan Stein by telephone at (202) 564-2088, by email at stein.jonathan@epa.gov, or by mail at U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20460.

Sincerely,

Velveta Golightly-Howell

Director

Office of Civil Rights

cc: Elise Packard

Associate General Counsel Civil Rights & Finance Law Office U.S. EPA

Alexis Strauss Deputy Regional Administrator Deputy Civil Rights Official U.S. EPA Region IX