



OFFICE OF EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

March 24, 2025

Via Email

In Reply Refer to:

EPA Complaint No. 01RNO-21-R5

James Jennings
Acting Director
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
2520 W Iles Ave
Springfield, IL 62704
James.M.Jennings@illinois.gov

Dear Acting Director Jennings:

This letter is to notify you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of External Civil Rights Compliance (OECRC) has determined that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IL EPA) has met its obligations under the Informal Resolution Agreement (Agreement), dated February 23, 2024, between IL EPA and OECRC, relating to EPA Complaint No. 01RNO-21-R5. Accordingly, OECRC is closing the monitoring of the Agreement and the Complaint as of the date of this letter.

Pursuant to Section IV.A of the Agreement, IL EPA agreed to implement enhancements to its permit review process (as described in Section III). Pursuant to Sections IV.B, IV.C, and V of the Agreement, IL EPA has submitted, and OECRC has reviewed, reports demonstrating completion of deliverables. On January 13, 2025, by email, IL EPA notified OECRC that it had fulfilled its final commitment by publishing the finalized Enhanced Public Participation Plan on its website. By satisfying the Enhanced Public Participation Plan commitment, IL EPA has fulfilled its commitments as set forth in Sections IV and V of the Agreement.

Neither the closure of the monitoring or closure of the Complaint affects IL EPA's continuing responsibility under Title VI, 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, and, as applicable, other federal nondiscrimination laws,¹ nor does it affect EPA's investigation of any Title VI or other federal

¹ See Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 United States Code §§ 2000d to 2000d-7 (Title VI); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq.; Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.; Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, Pub. L. 92-500 § 13, 86 Stat. 903 (codified as amended at 33 U.S.C. § 1251 (1972)); 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7.

Acting Director James Jennings

civil rights complaint or address any other matter not covered by the closure. This letter is not a formal statement of EPA policy and should not be relied upon, cited, or construed as such.

I thank you and your staff for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Senior Advisor Kurt Temple by telephone at (202) 564-7299 or by email at temple.kurt@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan Park
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights

cc: Chris Pressnall
Office of Environmental Justice
Illinois EPA

Angelia Talbert-Duarte
Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

Cheryl Newton
Acting Regional Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
U.S. EPA Region 5

Robert Kaplan
Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA Region 5