

## OFFICE OF EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

July 18, 2024

In Reply Refer to: EPA Complaint No. 01X-24-R8

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

Re: Acknowledgement and Referral of Administrative Complaint

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

Thank you for your correspondence received on February 15, 2024, by the Office of External Civil Rights Compliance (OECRC) relating to the Springhill Suites in Denver, Colorado, in which you alleged national origin discrimination and retaliation in the context of your employment with the Springhill Suites.

Pursuant to EPA's nondiscrimination regulation, OECRC conducts a preliminary review of administrative complaints to determine acceptance, rejection, or referral to the appropriate Federal agency. See 40 C.F.R. § 7.120(d)(1). To be accepted for investigation, a complaint must meet the jurisdictional requirements described in EPA's nondiscrimination regulation. First, the complaint must be in writing. See 40 C.F.R. § 7.120(b)(1). Second, it must describe an alleged discriminatory act that, if true, may violate EPA's nondiscrimination (i.e., an alleged discriminatory act based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability). Id. Third, it must be filed within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act. See 40 C.F.R. § 7.120(b)(2). Finally, the complaint must be filed against an applicant for, or recipient of, EPA financial assistance that allegedly committed the discriminatory act. See 40 C.F.R. § 7.15.)

Our Case Resolution Manual (CRM) governs how OECRC analyzes correspondence. Please see CRM sections 1.1 and 1.5 – at the following link: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-01/documents/2021.1.5\_final\_case\_resolution\_manual\_.pdf.

Based on the above, your correspondence does not constitute a complaint that we can accept for investigation. As the Springhill Suites in Denver is not an EPA recipient, OECRC does not have jurisdiction over them, and accordingly, will take no further action on this matter.

EPA will be in contact with Amy Burkholder, Field Director of the Denver office of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) at amy.burkholder@eeoc.gov regarding this employment discrimination matter. Please direct all further contact to Ms. Burkholder at the EEOC. Please be advised that a copy of the complaint will be shared with the EEOC.

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

In the interim, if you have any questions about the status of this correspondence, please contact me by telephone at (202) 564-3357 or by email at wilson.adam@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

ADAM WILSON Digitally signed by ADAM WILSON Date: 2024.07.18 14:28:26 -04'00'

Adam Wilson Acting Deputy Director Office of External Civil Rights Compliance Office of Environmental Justice & External Civil Rights

cc: Ariadne Goerke Deputy Associate General Counsel Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

> Mark A. Smith Deputy Regional Administrator Deputy Civil Rights Official U.S. EPA Region 8

Kenneth C. Schefski Regional Counsel U.S. EPA Region 8

Katherin Hall ORC Contact U.S. EPA Region 8