



OFFICE OF EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

June 27, 2024

In Reply Refer to:

EPA Complaint Nos: 02D-24-R10 and 03D-24-R10

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

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

Beaverton, OR 97008

Soft Lights Foundation

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

Re: Acknowledgement and Rejection of Administrative Complaint

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

This letter is to notify you that on June 24, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of External Civil Rights Compliance (OECRC) received your complaint involving the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

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 regulation (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.

Based on the above, your correspondence does not constitute a complaint that we can accept for investigation as the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are not recipients of EPA financial assistance. Title VI and the other federal civil rights laws that OECRC administers do not extend to cover federal agencies and apply only to recipients. Accordingly, as of the date of this letter, we are rejecting this complaint for lack of recipient status and will take no further action on this matter.

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: 2024.06.27
08:29:29 -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
Office of General Counsel

Dan Opalski
Deputy Regional Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
U.S. EPA Region 10

Beverly Li
Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA Region 10