

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 – 2733

Office of the Regional Administrator

January 28, 2015

The Honorable Gene Reynolds Louisiana House of Representatives 736 Main Street Minden, Louisiana 71055

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

I am writing to provide you an update regarding our progress to increase public involvement as we consider alternatives at Camp Minden in Webster Parish, Louisiana. The EPA continues to work closely with the Louisiana National Guard and State Police, who have control of the site, to assure the safety of the public. I appreciate your leadership in addressing this important issue and look forward to working with you.

Today, I am responding to a letter from the Louisiana Progress Action to address their ideas. We support the idea to create a Dialogue Committee and hope that you or your designee will participate on it. We also support using the nine criteria from the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan to evaluate alternatives.

The Committee could be asked to review alternatives as expeditiously as possible. We also support using the nine criteria from the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan to evaluate alternatives in the remedy selection. We envision this process to involve conference calls, document reviews, and face-to-face meetings in North Louisiana. At the conclusion of the Committee's deliberations, all the information would be shared with the public and media in a series of public meetings. This will also provide the broader public an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

With your support, we would like to host a planning conference call early next week to discuss members of the Dialogue Committee and a schedule for moving forward.

The safety of the public is and has always been the most important consideration. We will continue to reiterate our support for public involvement as we work to find ways to address the dangerous conditions at Camp Minden. Again, thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Kon Curry

Regional Administrator

cc: The Honorable Robert Adley Louisiana State Senate

The Honorable Barrow Peacock Louisiana State Senate

The Honorable Sherri Smith Buffington Louisiana State Senate

The Honorable Gene Reynolds Louisiana House of Representatives

The Honorable Henry Burns Louisiana House of Representatives