



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK  
DIRECTOR

August 10, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Nick Leonard  
Great Lakes Environmental Law Center  
4444 Second Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan 48201

Ms. Alice Jennings  
Edwards & Jennings PC  
65 Cadillac Square, #48/2710  
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Mr. Leonard and Ms. Jennings:

**SUBJECT: Acceptance of Discrimination Complaint**

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has determined that the complaint (Complaint No. 20-001-D) submitted on July 27, 2020, meets the requirements set forth in EGLE Policy No. 09-024, Nondiscrimination in EGLE Programs, Section C, Grievance Procedures. The complaint alleges that EGLE's decision to issue the amended license to U.S. Ecology North is in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the EPA's Title VI regulations described in 40 C.F.R. Part 7.

Pursuant to EGLE's Policy No. 09-024, a complaint will be accepted for further investigation if EGLE determines that it has jurisdiction to pursue the matter and that the complaint submittal contains sufficient merit to warrant further investigation. EGLE has determined that the subject complaint meets both conditions stated above.

EGLE's Policy No. 09-024 provides the complainant the option to engage in an informal resolution process. In Section VII of the complaint, the complainants request that EGLE engage in this informal resolution process to address the issues raised. EGLE accepts the complainants request to engage in the informal resolution process.

EGLE has laid out the following steps for the informal resolution process:

- EGLE will stay the formal investigation into the complaint allegations for 90 days to engage with the complainants to informally resolve the subject complaint,
- EGLE will meet with the complainants during this time to determine the steps to resolve the complaint,

Mr. Nick Leonard

Page 2

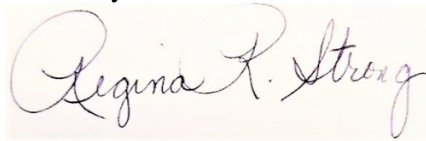
August 10, 2020

- If at any time either party (EGLE or the complainants) would like to withdraw from the informal resolution process during the 90 days, a written statement will be provided to the other party, and
- If an agreement is not reached or either party withdraws from the informal resolution process, EGLE will initiate the formal investigation process. When a formal investigation is initiated, EGLE shall notify the complainants in writing of the findings of the investigation and the recommendations for resolution within 180 days.

Please confirm receipt of this notification of EGLE's acceptance of the informal resolution process within 14 days. Once EGLE receives your confirmed receipt of this notification, EGLE will begin the 90-day informal resolution process.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Katie Kruse, Nondiscrimination Compliance Coordinator, Office of the Environmental Justice Public Advocate, at 517-249-0906; or [KruseK2@Michigan.gov](mailto:KruseK2@Michigan.gov); or you may contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Regina R. Strong". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Regina R. Strong  
Environmental Justice Public Advocate  
Office of the Environmental Justice Public Advocate  
517-614-0278

cc: Ms. Liesl Eichler Clark, Director, EGLE  
Mr. Aaron B. Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, EGLE  
Mr. James Clift, Deputy Director, EGLE  
Ms. Elizabeth M. Browne, EGLE  
Mr. Al Taylor, EGLE  
Ms. Katie Kruse, EGLE