



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 • (217) 782-3397

BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR

ALEC MESSINA, DIRECTOR

September 25, 2018

Andrew R. Wheeler
Acting Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator
Mail Code 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Sterigenics US LLC
Illinois Clean Air Act Permit Program Permit No. 95120085

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) is very interested in the content and recommendations found in the Letter Health Consultation (ATSDR Letter) issued by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), dated August 21, 2018. The public health problems for the citizens of Willowbrook as expressed in the ATSDR Letter are of the highest concern to Governor Bruce Rauner and the Illinois EPA. We are committed to working closely with state and federal authorities to do what we can to explore the exact scope of the problem and to find meaningful options for resolution.

The conclusions in the ATSDR Letter were based on certain assumptions which ATSDR acknowledged were framed by the information and data provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). To that end, among the recommendations listed in the ATSDR Letter is that USEPA work with Sterigenics to initiate long-term air monitoring as soon as possible. Such monitoring would measure ambient air levels of ethylene oxide (EtO) and could demonstrate the effectiveness of actions taken by Sterigenics to reduce emissions and subsequent exposures in Willowbrook.

Given the qualified nature of ATSDR's conclusions, we agree with ATSDR that ambient air monitoring would be the best means to gain an accurate understanding of the EtO emissions and their impact on the community. Therefore, we join in ATSDR's request and **demand that USEPA undertake ongoing ambient air monitoring to measure the air levels of EtO originating from the Sterigenics facility.** This must happen and this must happen now for the citizens of Willowbrook and surrounding communities.

Cordially,

Alec Messina
Director