



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

AUG - 8 2019

Ms. Laura Olah
Executive Director
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger
E12629 Weigand's Bay South
Merrimac, Wisconsin 53561

Dear Ms. Olah:

Thank you for your July 16, 2019 letter regarding open burning and detonation (OB/OD) and other thermal treatment of materials at the Holston Army Ammunition Plant (Holston) in Kingsport, Tennessee. In your letter you expressed concern regarding perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released into the environment. Additionally, you requested the U.S. Environmental Agency Region 4 issue an immediate order to prohibit further OB/OD and other thermal treatment of all PFAS and PFAS-contaminated materials or wastes at Holston, and that we gather additional details regarding the U.S. Army's (Army) management of any PFAS-contaminated materials.

Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the State of Tennessee is authorized to implement the RCRA hazardous waste management program. Pursuant to the Tennessee Hazardous Waste Management Act, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is the lead agency for the issuance and enforcement of the hazardous waste management permit for Holston's burn pan units. Additionally, pursuant to the Tennessee Air Quality Act, TDEC is also the lead agency for the operating Title V air permit.

The EPA has been working with TDEC and the Army to address citizen concerns regarding OB/OD of wastes at Holston, and to evaluate and implement alternatives to OB/OD at the facility. We have also shared a copy of your letter with both agencies and will discuss your concerns as part of our on-going dialogue. For additional information regarding the EPA's efforts to address PFAS via a cross-agency approach, you may visit our website at www.epa.gov/pfas/epas-pfas-action-plan for a copy of our current PFAS Action Plan.

We appreciate your desire to protect and preserve the environment and hope you find this information helpful. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Carol Monell, Director, in our Land, Chemical and Redevelopment Division. Ms. Monell can be reached by telephone at, (404) 562-8719.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary S. Walker".

Mary S. Walker
Regional Administrator

cc: Ms. Michelle Walker Owenby
TDEC

Mr. Patrick Flood
TDEC

Mr. Gregory Young
TDEC