



Communities United For Action
1814 Dreman Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223
(513) 853-3947 www.cufacincy.org

November 19, 2019

Matthew Tejada
USEPA Headquarters
William Jefferson Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Mail Code: 2202A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Tejada:

Thank you so very much for coming to Cincinnati Saturday, November 9 at the invitation of People's Action and Communities United For Action (CUFA). You were gracious to tour some of our neighborhoods where residents experience the severe sewer backups and overflows. Also, you spoke, saw and heard some of their experience in dealing with our public utility, the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD). The MSD, operated by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, is not responding justly to the Consent Decree.

With your analysis and assistance, the Consent Decree must be modified to budget and plan for MSD projects in these most severely impacted neighborhoods, rendering environmental justice to people who have been neglected. We understand that, between the Office of Environmental Justice and the Water Enforcement Division, you have agreed to:

- Bring Region 5 enforcement officials in charge of the Consent Decree to Cincinnati to make it clear to CUFA what is required;
- Provide Technical Assistance to work with CUFA to determine what the Consent Decree requires for a schedule of sewer remedies, and whether these remedies are leaving behind neighborhoods that are being hardest hit by the impacts of sewer overflows and backups;
- Communicate findings of Consent Decree compliance analysis to CUFA, the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and make recommendations for modifications to the 2009 Wet Weather Improvement Plan; and
- Determine the authority of the US EPA to enforce compliance with Consent Decree requirements for the Sewer Backup Response and Prevention Programs and potentially conduct an audit of the programs.

Again, we appreciate your willingness to visit Cincinnati to meet people struggling with our failing sewer system. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure our Consent Decree is implemented justly and affordably.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Miller *Kevin Harrison* *Deborah M. Somo* *Andrea Baker* *Mary Metzger*
Roger Davis *Don O'Connell* *Erin Johnson* *Russ Doyle*
Miriam Kraus *ADUCO*



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November 19, 2019

Kathy Triantafillou
USEPA REGION 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Mail Code: RM-19J
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Dear Ms. Triantafillou:

Thank you so very much for coming to Cincinnati Saturday, November 9 at the invitation of People's Action and Communities United For Action (CUFA). You were gracious to tour some of our neighborhoods where residents experience the severe sewer backups and overflows. Also, you spoke, saw and heard some of their experience in dealing with our public utility, the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD). The MSD, operated by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, is not responding justly to the Consent Decree.

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Sincerely,

Stacey Miller Robin Harrison Ron Davis
Roger News
Mark Kraus
Deborah M. Simis
EB
Wendy Hill
Mary Kozymar
Steve
Andrea Baker
Russ Doyle



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November 19, 2019

Joseph Theis
USEPA Headquarters
William Jefferson Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Mail Code: 2243A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Theis:

Thank you so very much for coming to Cincinnati Saturday, November 9 at the invitation of People's Action and Communities United For Action (CUFA). You were gracious to tour some of our neighborhoods where residents experience the severe sewer backups and overflows. Also, you spoke, saw and heard some of their experience in dealing with our public utility, the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD). The MSD, operated by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, is not responding justly to the Consent Decree.

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Sincerely,

Flora Miller *Robin Harrison* *Deborah M. Somo* *Mary Theis*
Roger Davis *Ray Davis* *Steve & Andrea Baker*
Martin Kraus *Espen Joh* *Russ Poyle*
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