

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 24, 2018

Via Electronic Delivery

Kathleen Hoffman
Senior Vice President
Sterigenics
2015 Spring Road, Suite 650
Oak Brook, Illinois

Dear Ms. Kathleen Hoffman,

We write to request that you conduct ambient air testing for ethylene oxide both at your facility in Willowbrook, Illinois, and in public places, and that you provide personal exposure tests for any resident of Willowbrook. We also request that you make this data publicly accessible.

As you know, a recent investigation conducted by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), a division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), on the air quality in Willowbrook has led to concerns that Sterigenics operations could be adversely affecting public health.

ATSDR's report used modeling data to determine whether a public health risk exists in Willowbrook; however, monitoring data is key to determining whether the modeled data is representative of the community. We request that you work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to monitor levels of ambient ethylene oxide and make that data available to the public. This transparency will go a long way in reassuring the community that the information being relayed to them is accurate and without bias. Outside the facility, monitoring should focus on fugitive ethylene oxide leaving the back-vent and at and around local schools and parks. Within your facility, we request that you monitor the general working area and personal areas.

We also request that you provide any resident of Willowbrook access to personal exposure tests. According to ATSDR, tests are available to determine whether personal exposure to ethylene oxide has occurred within 2-3 days. These tests are not routinely administered by doctors and require the use of special laboratories, which are not readily available to all residents. Although these tests are unable to determine the full extent of exposure, they can be used to help mitigate any concerns residents have from short-term exposure.

You may be pleased to know that we have requested that EPA assist Sterigenics in conducting its ambient air testing and that it expedites testing a scrubber that was recently installed on your back vent. In addition, we have requested information regarding a document that was intended to

provide context to Willowbrook residents on ATSDR's report that was abruptly removed from EPA's website. Our staff is happy to brief you on EPA's response to our request.

Thank you for considering our requests.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Bill Foster
United States Representative