



OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND ADJUDICATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

December 19, 2025

Bonnie Heiple, Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Second Floor
Boston, MA 02108
via email: Bonnie.Heiple@mass.gov

Re: Continuation of Informal Resolution Agreement and Return to Investigation
EPA Complaint No. 02R-22-R1

Dear Commissioner Heiple:

On December 19, 2025, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA), Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication (OCRA), External Civil Rights Division (ECRD) met with representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). During this meeting, MassDEP confirmed its decision to partially withdraw from the Informal Resolution Agreement (IRA) process for Claims 2 (retaliation) and 3 (procedural safeguards) of EPA Complaint No. 02R-22-R1.

Based on MassDEP's communication to withdraw, ECRD is concluding the tolling period and terminating the IRA process for Claims 2 and 3 of this complaint as of December 19, 2025. ECRD will resume investigation of Claims 2 and 3 consistent with EPA's regulation at 40 C.F.R. Part 7.

ECRD will continue to negotiate Claim 1 with MassDEP in the IRA process consistent with EPA's regulation at 40 C.F.R. Part 7.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Case Manager Charity Johnson by email at johnson.charity@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juan Carlos Hunt".

JuanCarlos M. Hunt, Director
U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication

cc: Karen McGuire, Deputy Regional Administrator/Deputy Civil Rights Official
Cindy Lewis, Acting Deputy Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA, Region 1