



**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](mailto: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](mailto:johnson.charity@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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