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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 1 - 1998

OFFICE OF
CIVIL RIGHTS

J. Dale Givens, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 82263
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2263

Robert Kuehn, Esq.
Tulane Environmental Law Clinic
6329 Freret Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118-5670

Richard Mason, Controller
Shintech Inc.
Wesleyan Tower, Suite 811
24 Greenway Plaza
Houston, Texas 77046

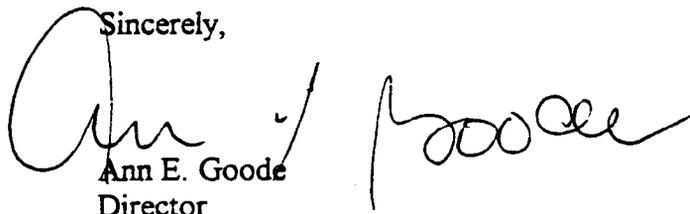
Re: Response to Comments on January 1998 "Draft Demographic Information" and
April 1998 Draft Revised Demographic Information for Title VI Administrative
Complaint File No. 4R-97-R6

Dear Mr. Givens, Mr. Kuehn, and Mr. Mason:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and your representatives to discuss the information in the January 30, 1998 "Draft Demographic Information." As you know, during those meetings we had the opportunity to discuss a variety of issues relating to Office of Civil Rights' (OCR) preliminary analyses. To the extent we were not able to address your questions at these meetings, we have attempted to do so in the enclosed document. In addition, we have included our response to the written comments submitted by the Tulane University Environmental Law Clinic dated February 18, March 7, March 12, and April 7, 1998 (copies enclosed for Mr. Givens and Mr. Mason) and by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality on March 4, 1998 (copies enclosed for Mr. Kuehn and Mr. Mason). Since the release of the April 8, 1998 "Draft Revised Demographic Information," OCR has also received two additional sets of comments from the Tulane University Environmental Law Clinic dated April 9 and 10, 1998 (copies enclosed for Mr. Givens and Mr. Mason). I am taking this opportunity to respond to all the comments.

We have made an effort to draft the enclosed responses as clearly and simply as possible so that all interested parties will have a basic understanding of OCR's analyses. We hope we have been successful, particularly when responding to the technical questions and suggestions made by your staff or experts. I look forward to meeting with you again, and will be happy to discuss these responses in addition to any comments or questions you may have regarding the "Draft Revised Demographic Information."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann E. Goode". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Ann E. Goode
Director

Enclosures