

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



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September 3, 2015

Mark Hague
Environmental Protection Agency
Acting Regional Administrator, Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
Lenexa, KS 66219

Dear Mr. Hague,

In the email accompanying this letter, please find a link to the new expert reports that the Attorney General's Office has gathered in connection with our ongoing lawsuit against Republic Services, Inc., arising from alleged environmental law violations associated with the underground fire at the Bridgeton Landfill. These reports have been provided to counsel for the defense, and they will be released publicly later this morning.

Although the reports were collected as part of investigating the allegations in the lawsuit, they have a much broader significance. The reports provide information important to understanding the environment on, under, and around the Bridgeton Landfill, and highlight environmental concerns that demand the attention of regulators. The reports from the Missouri Geological Survey and Missouri S&T scientists involving off-site groundwater and tree-core samples, for example, show evidence of radiological and organic contamination outside the boundaries of the landfill. And Drs. Sperling and Abedini warn that, in their opinion, the subsurface fire has passed beyond the two lines of gas interceptor wells at the neck of the landfill, threatening to move closer to OU-1 at Westlake.

The Attorney General's Office will continue to diligently pursue its lawsuit and hold the responsible parties accountable for unlawful conduct. We are neither equipped nor empowered, however, to make remedial decisions to address ongoing environmental concerns. Please review carefully the information in these reports and consider what further action may be necessary and appropriate to make the area surrounding the landfill clean and safe for the community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Koster".

CHRIS KOSTER
Attorney General

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