

United States Senate

October 18, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Dr. Patrick Breyse, PhD, CIH
Director
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Hwy, NE (MS F59)
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717

Dear Director Breyse:

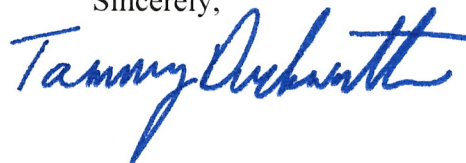
I write to request that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) – the premier Federal agency entrusted with protecting American communities from public health threats related to exposure of natural and man-made hazardous substances – conduct a health consultation in Sauget, Illinois.

Specifically, I ask that the dedicated civil servants at ATSDR determine if metal emissions pollution being emitted from the Veolia North America-Trade Waste Incineration facility is having an adverse health impact on the surrounding community. If ATSDR identifies threats to public health, I request that ATSDR provide recommendations to eliminate the threat.

The facility in Sauget, Illinois is required to obtain an operating permit under Title V of the Clean Air Act because it is a hazardous waste incinerator and has the capacity to emit large amounts of pollution. Accordingly, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) previously required Veolia to conduct 24-hour emissions monitoring of multiple metals, such as mercury lead and arsenic. However, EPA recently revised the permit to free Veolia from monitoring all metals emissions except for Mercury. Community leaders, residents and I are deeply concerned that this dramatic weakening in pollution controls puts public health at risk.

ATSDR's independence and expertise is required to provide my constituents in Sauget with an accurate scientific assessment of the public health risk facing my constituents who are exposed to emissions from the hazardous waste incinerator. Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request for ATSDR assistance.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator