



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 235

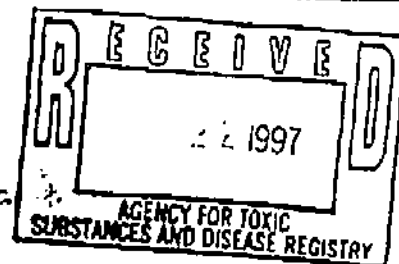
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Memphis Health Center, Inc.

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April 18, 1997

Barry Johnson, Administrator
ATSDR
1600 Clifton Road NE
Mail Stop
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Dr. Johnson:

The Defense Depot Memphis Tennessee-Concerned Citizens Committee (DDMT-CCC) recognizes the complexity of the nature of the many different variables that must be considered as we try to determine appropriate courses of action to recover from exposures to toxic waste. Your recent trip to Memphis was very useful, and we appreciate the effort that you are putting forth to help our community, especially at a time when emotions are high and fears are present.

DDMT-CCC has listed those elements we think should comprise a comprehensive recovery plan (see attached). We consider 1 and 2 which relate to health status to be short-term. Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are long-term, and they relate to remediation and redevelopment. We are in touch with EPA, Commerce and other agencies regarding the long-term issues.

Health assessment, health surveillance and medical care are the issues we wish to focus on immediately. As we are aware of your agency's very specific congressional mandate, which does not include the provision of medical care, we are only seeking assistance from ATSDR to help us make an appeal for this service to the appropriate agency.

From the issues raised at the meeting, DDMT-CCC has made an assessment of where we think the next step in this process should take us. After careful consideration of several options, we propose that ATSDR:

- (1) Revisit the Health Assessment conducted by ATSDR in 1995
- (2) Review the cancer mortality data gathered by the State of Tennessee in 1996
- (3) Develop a plan for ongoing medical surveillance of residents

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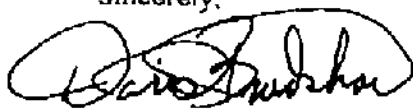
(4) Work with DDMT-CCC, the Region IV Health Office, Memphis Health Center, the Congress of National Black Churches local affiliates and Shelby County/State of Tennessee health care agencies to develop a plan to pursue the provision of primary health care services that have an environmental health focus for residents in the Depot area.

Memphis Health Center is committed to provide inkind resources to help conduct a health needs assessment of the area. If we can garner the assistance of Managed Care Organizations of TennCare and the Regional Health Office, we believe we can determine with a reasonable degree of accuracy what services to provide and the format that would be most appropriate for this community.

We request that DDMT-CCC participate in the planning and implementation of each of these proposed activities, providing us, along with our consultants, the opportunity to comment before any action is taken. In this way we can be certain that we understand and agree with the mechanisms and strategies that will be put in place to achieve our goals and objectives.

DDMT-CCC is optimistic that working together there can be some resolve for the dilemma of Memphis residents living near the Defense Depot. Thank you very much for continued interest and concern in this matter.

Sincerely,



Doris Bradshaw,
Chairman

Sincerely,



Allen Ball, CEO
Memphis Health Center

cc: U.S. Congressman, Harold Ford, Jr.
Representative Lois DeBerry
Representative Catherine Bower
Representative John DeBerry, Jr.
Senator Roscoe Dixon
Dr. Rubin Warren

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