



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 2, 2022

OFFICE OF
LAND AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

Mr. David Halperin
1805 9th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Halperin:

Thank you for your letter of April 21, 2022, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Michael S. Regan, providing considerations on the Risk Management Program (RMP) rule. The EPA appreciates the comments to strengthen the RMP rule to enhance national security and the protection of workers and communities.

Accident prevention is a top priority at the EPA. As you know, we are currently reviewing the RMP rule in accordance with Executive Order 13990: Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis. The EPA is considering improvements to the rule to better address the impacts of climate change on facility safety and protect communities from chemical accidents, especially vulnerable and overburdened communities living near RMP facilities.

Prior to publishing a proposed RMP rule, the EPA will consider the points made in your letter, comments discussed during any pre-proposal stakeholder meetings, and all comments received during the two public listening sessions held on June 16 and July 8, 2021, as well as the open comment period from May 28 to July 31, 2021. We continue to work towards publishing a proposed rule by September 2022, as reflected in the 2021 Fall Regulatory Agenda.

Again, thank you for your letter. Please share this response with the national security and environmental experts who are signatory to your letter dated April 21, 2022. If you have further questions, please contact Deanne Grant on my staff at grant.deanne@epa.gov or at (202) 564-1096.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Salyer, Director
Office of Emergency Management