



**Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility**

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August 24, 2005

**VIA FACSIMILE: 703-604-8567**

L. Jerry Hanson  
Deputy Inspector General  
For Inspections and Policy  
Defense Hotline  
Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1900

Re: Request for investigation and complaint of Donald Van Winkle

Dear Mr. Hanson:

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) represents Donald Van Winkle. Mr. Van Winkle is a civilian Army employee who works as an air monitoring operator / mechanic at the Bluegrass Army Depot (BGAD).

Mr. Van Winkle requests that –

- 1) An inspection be performed of records maintained at the BGAD focusing on whether the Depot has properly monitored and accurately reported the results of its monitoring of seven igloos that store munitions containing agent VX to Kentucky environmental officials and other agencies within and outside the Army;
- 2) A review is conducted to determine whether air monitoring components and equipment are properly changed out or maintained so to maximize monitoring capability; and
- 3) An after-action review is carried out to determine the responsible official(s) who made decisions that compromised the efficacy of conversion pads to detect VX leaks.

In support of his concerns, Mr. Van Winkle provides his affidavit (attached).



In addition, Mr. Van Winkle requests that any interviews of BGAD employees or contractors be conducted off site. As noted in his affidavit, Mr. Van Winkle has been subjected to retaliation for raising his concerns. He believes that any employee interviewed on site or with a BGAD representative present will not feel free to fully disclose what s/he knows.

I look forward to your prompt review of Mr. Van Winkle's affidavit and the initiation of an inspection at BGAD. Please contact me to schedule a meeting with Mr. Van Winkle, or to discuss any questions.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Condit  
General Counsel

cc: LTG Stanley E. Green  
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