Sterigenics®
A Sotera Health company

September 3, 2018

To all signatories:

We are in receipt of your August 31, 2018 letter and have been working diligently to respond to your request. We take this matter seriously and need to reiterate the fact that **our Sterigenics Willowbrook facility achieves and exceeds all compliance requirements set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Illinois EPA (ILEPA) for air emissions.** Both agencies are fully aware of our strong compliance track-record and have approved the permits at our operations.

We have always been committed to ensuring that the ethylene oxide ("EO") used to sterilize life-saving medical products at our Sterigenics Willowbrook facility does not present a health threat to the Willowbrook community by operating well within permitted levels. Our air quality control equipment is state of the art and the recent **voluntary equipment upgrade** that reduces our emissions 90% further demonstrates our continuing commitment to safety. We understand it is important to confirm the effectiveness of our controls after this upgrade. However, it is not possible to conform to the request in your letter since we need to be operating to be able to test the system. We agree with your desire to test the system and validate the results of the upgrade and are willing to do this before the receipt of a waiver to the 30 to 60 day notice period currently required by the ILEPA and USEPA.

To this end, we plan to test and validate the upgrade of our control system within the next week. We are working with a third-party to administer the testing and we welcome your participation in this process to facilitate transparency.

We hope that ILEPA and USEPA will be able to participate in this testing, but we are prepared to proceed even if the agencies cannot participate at this time. If the agencies cannot participate in the next week, we will work with them to schedule a time to repeat the testing. Once again, we recognize the need to perform testing on the quickest timeline possible and are willing to have multiple tests to provide results expeditiously.

Another critical aspect that we must recognize is the real world need for medical device providers to have a reliable sterilization partner to meet the needs of patients for safe healthcare and infection prevention. As you may be aware, our Willowbrook facility sterilizes products that have a broad impact on healthcare, including 1,500 surgical procedure kits, 11,000 radiological syringes and 16,000 vascular catheters each day. These products support **thousands of necessary healthcare procedures every day**, in many cases without meaningful volumes of products in inventory should an outage in sterilization occur. Further, at this time **the only practical FDA-approved method** for delivering this solution for many medical products is EO sterilization. Any disruption of this process could result in unacceptable and life-threatening delays of necessary surgical procedures as the tools and devices necessary to accomplish these procedures would not be available.

Again, we appreciate your attention to this issue and remain committed to providing the essential service of sterilizing medical tools, devices and products in a way that does not present a risk to the Willowbrook community or Sterigenics personnel.

2015 Spring Road Suite 650, Oakbrook, IL 60523
630-928-1700 | sterigenics.com