



## **Statement from Sterigenics in Response to Illinois EPA Referral to Attorney General**

**Chicago, IL October 2, 2018** - As communicated in our press release of September 27, independent third-party testing designed and monitored by the Illinois EPA and the U.S. EPA was conducted less than two weeks ago. The results demonstrate that emission levels on our recent emission control upgrades are below detection limits on state-of-the-art approved testing equipment.

In fact, the test results confirmed the view expressed by U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in August that there is “not [an] immediate health threat or...an emergency situation” in Willowbrook. In addition, in a letter to Governor Rauner on September 27, E.P.A. Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation Bill Wehrum states, “...air concentrations of EO...are not an immediate harm to health to the people in and around Willowbrook.”

Sterigenics states, “We agree with the ATSDR’s clarification and Assistant Administrator Wehrum’s letter. Unfortunately, the community has been exposed to a lot of inaccurate and misinterpreted information and we are committed to getting the real facts to residents who, based on what they have been hearing and reading, are understandably concerned.

The company continued, “We have always been well under IEPA and EPA requirements but are committed to additional monitoring and testing to reassure residents of their safety. Shutting down our facilities will seriously undermine the ability of hospitals in Illinois and across the country to proceed with scheduled surgeries and put lives at risk. We are committed to doing the right thing by our community but closing facilities that emit limited, regulated EO emissions is not the right answer. If necessary, we will take all appropriate actions to protect the hospitals and patients that depend on our facility. The singling out of our facility among those in Illinois, who now emit more EO than Sterigenics Willowbrook, is inevitably short-sighted.”

The implications for our country’s healthcare and medical device industries and the millions of patients that depend on them are enormous. Shutting down the Willowbrook facility -- and all the others in Illinois that emit any EO -- will create serious risk for hospitals and medical device manufacturers that depend on EO all in the name of safety for the healthcare industry. This action by Illinois is not justified by the facts and the EPA has communicated directly to the Governor that Sterigenics Willowbrook does not present an imminent threat to public health. We urge reconsideration of the Governor’s ill-considered action, which is based on a misuse of ATSDR data, which the ATSDR has already publically acknowledged.

**For additional information on this matter visit [www.sterigenicswillowbrook.com](http://www.sterigenicswillowbrook.com)**

**About Sterigenics:** Sterigenics is a global leader in mission-critical sterilization solutions and expert advisory services. Its 1,600 engineers, scientists and safety specialists provide deep expertise in gamma, EtO, Ebeam and X-ray sterilization technologies for the medical device, pharmaceutical, food and commercial safety, and high-performance materials industries. Its network of 47 facilities in 13 countries put its services close to customers' production and distribution points, ensuring it is the "point of safe" for customers around the world.

**About Sotera Health:** [Sotera Health LLC, along with its business entities](#), is the world's leading, fully integrated protector of global health. With over 500 years of combined scientific expertise, the company ensures the safety of healthcare by providing mission-critical services to the medical device, pharmaceutical, tissue and food industries. Sotera Health operates 63 facilities in 13 countries. The company has over 2,600 employees globally and touches the lives of more than 180 million people around the world each year. Sotera Health serves more than 5,000 customers worldwide, including 75 of the top 100 medical device manufacturers.

Sotera Health goes to market through its three best-in-class companies – [Nelson Labs™](#), [Nordion®](#) and [Sterigenics®](#) – with the mission of ensuring the safety of healthcare each and every day. Nelson Labs offers microbiological and analytical testing and expert advisory services

to assist customers in developing and maintaining sterilization solutions in medical devices, tissue/implantable products, and the pharmaceutical and biologics fields. Nordion is the world's largest provider of Cobalt-60 used in the gamma sterilization process. Sterigenics provides comprehensive contract sterilization and ionization solutions for the medical device, pharmaceutical, food safety and high-performance materials industries.

Learn more about **Sotera Health** at [soterahealth.com](http://soterahealth.com), about **Nelson Labs** at [nelsonlabs.com](http://nelsonlabs.com), about **Nordion** at [nordion.com](http://nordion.com) and about **Sterigenics** at [sterigenics.com](http://sterigenics.com).

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