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**Congress of the United States**  
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The Honorable Debra Shore  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. EPA Region 5  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Administrator Shore:

This letter is to follow up regarding the joint efforts underway over the last year to address contaminated groundwater releases entering the Detroit River from the BASF site in Wyandotte, Michigan. Thank you for your response to my initial letter sent on July 8, 2022, and for keeping my office informed and engaged throughout this process on both the short-term and long-term solutions being contemplated for this site.

This effort remains a high priority for the residents of Southeast Michigan and the Downriver communities, and, to that end, I would like to request a full status update on the project, as well as encourage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to act swiftly to finalize a long-term remedy for the BASF site to protect human health and the environment.

In my previous letter, I stressed a lack of urgency in the short-term response to mitigate the flow of contamination into the Detroit River. While I commend the parties for their progress on a short-term pumping system, I am frustrated that it took so long to implement.

Regarding the long-term barrier wall solution, it is my understanding that EPA has decided to add an additional step in this process and has requested BASF to submit a 60 percent design proposal for EPA's review. This, it appears, will result in a longer schedule than EPA originally projected as it relates to the design approval process. With these added delays, I have real concerns that construction will not begin this year as was stated in your initial response to my July 8<sup>th</sup> letter. All parties, BASF, EGLE, and EPA, have a responsibility to uphold the consent decrees originally signed over 30 years ago to halt the flow of contaminated groundwater into the Detroit River. My constituents are growing more concerned with this drawn-out process and, while I acknowledge there is no simple solution to this issue and will take time to do right, the time it has taken to finalize a long-term remedy is frustrating.

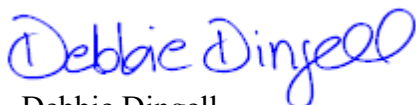
Please provide a full status update on the design and construction of the long-term barrier wall solution and responses to the following questions:

1. Why did EPA decided to add an additional step in the review process for the long-term barrier solution as it relates to the 60 percent design proposal BASF was requested to submit?
2. Can you provide more detail on the current compliance monitoring program and what contaminants are being monitored?
3. In EPA's assessment, how is the short-term pumping operation going and will it be an effective measure to protect human health and the environment while the long-term solution is implemented?
4. When can we expect construction to begin on the long-term barrier solution? And when can we expect construction to be completed?

Thank you for your attention and continued work in this important, ongoing public health and environmental matter facing Downriver. As I have said before, all stakeholders and every level of government must work together. I stand ready, as always, to work with you and all parties to ensure we make a meaningful difference for the long-term environmental and public health conditions connected to this site.

I look forward to receiving a full status update soon and strongly urge the EPA, as well as all involved parties, to move quickly in finalizing and constructing a long-term solution for this site.

Sincerely,



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress