

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 8, 2017

Howard W. McMillan
Acting Deputy Administrator
U.S Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590


Dear Mr. McMillan:

Thank you for your recent response to my February 14, 2017 request that the Department of Transportation (DOT) investigate reports issued in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel regarding the handling of chemical and hazardous waste by Greif, Inc., including at Mid-America Steel Drum Company, Inc. sites in Milwaukee, St. Francis and Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

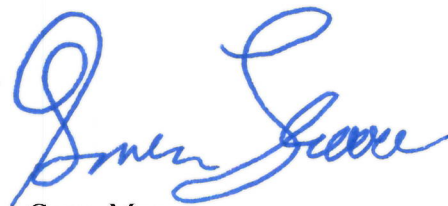
Many federal agencies are involved in the response to problems uncovered at Greif, Inc. facilities. I have requested that the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission take action in response to allegations of mishandling of chemical and hazardous waste by Greif, Inc., including at Mid-America Steel Drum Company, Inc. facilities in Wisconsin. Many of these agencies have responded and some are in the process of taking action in response to the allegations I shared. It is important that all of the involved entities work together, and I would urge you to ensure that you are effectively collaborating with your federal partners and the State of Wisconsin.

Responding to concerns about the safe transportation of hazardous materials, I understand the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) conducted an inspection of the Milwaukee facility on February 24, 2016. Further, PHMSA made initial visits to the St. Francis and Oak Creek facilities and a second visit to the Milwaukee Facility on February 27, 2017. PHMSA shared with my office that the inspections indicated probable violations of hazardous materials regulations—including training record creation and retention, intermediate bulk container retesting and periodic requalification. PHMSA's discoveries confirm allegations laid out by a whistleblower who worked in these facilities and reporting by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Further, they indicate willful decisions on the part of management to ignore known threats and continue to operate with unsafe practices.

I write today to again express my concern for the safety of workers and neighbors of Mid-America Steel Drum facilities in Wisconsin. I appreciate your immediate attention to this matter and urge you to continue to take all appropriate steps to ensure hazardous materials are packaged and transported safely and in compliance with federal regulations. Please provide me with an accounting of PHMSA's findings and enforcement actions when your investigation is complete.


Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Sincerely,


Gwen Moore
Member of Congress