



**National
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.
For an Equitable Future.*

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VIA FEDEX AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

October 19, 2022

Mr. Michael S. Regan
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

I write on behalf of the National Urban League as well as the many, many ancestors of those who were formerly enslaved on the Whitney Plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana. We write to urge, encourage, and support a civil rights investigation into the actions surrounding those who are promoting the development of the Greenfield Grain Elevator Terminal.

It is our view that this terminal and the potential damage to both the air, water, and quality of life in those areas of St. John the Baptist Parish, which is a historic African American community, violates the civil rights and environmental laws of the nation. It subjects those communities like Wallace, Louisiana, and the Whitney Slave Museum, a part of the Register of Historic Places in this nation, to additive pollutants and risks to the quality of life and the right of the people in that area on a disparate basis.

We ask that you give this matter your highest consideration and that if a formal investigation is launched, we applaud it. If it has not yet been launched, we request such a careful and thoughtful investigation. At present, many state, local, and federal agencies are considering decisions regarding permits to allow this project to move forward. Without your intervention, grave and permanent harm will come to the Black communities of St. John the Baptist Parish.

We believe that an investigation is consistent with your recent announcements of a new Office of Civil Rights at the Environmental Protection Agency which has jurisdiction with respect to this.



National
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Mr. Michael S. Regan
October 19, 2022
Page 2

I am available to speak to you or any designated member of your staff in furtherance of the matters contained in this letter.

With warmest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Marc H. Morial
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Urban League