



July 23, 2019

Joseph L. Winland
President, Manor at Olde Ivy Homeowners Association

Mr. Winland,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the operation of the Sterigenics medical sterilization facility in Smyrna. The safe operation of our facilities is a top priority at Sterigenics and we take your questions regarding the safety of the community very seriously.

Our Smyrna facility operates in compliance with permits and regulations established by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), as it has throughout its history. As part of our commitment to ongoing improvement, we have consistently taken voluntary steps to reduce emissions of ethylene oxide (EO) from the facility resulting in a 90% reduction in EO emissions over the past five years. In addition, we are working with the Georgia EPD regarding additional voluntary enhancements that are consistent with changes being undertaken in other Sterigenics facilities and which will further reduce EO emissions from the facility to negligible levels.

A few points to consider regarding EO. EO exists in the air all around us. It is the product of natural sources, including plant decay and the human body's normal metabolic process, as well as man-made sources, namely cars, diesel trucks, and construction materials. The levels of EO in residential areas modeled in the Georgia EPD's preliminary report and referenced by the *Marietta Daily Journal* on July 21, 2019 are well below the levels found to exist in communities across the country. This means that the air in your neighborhood is likely no different than air in other parts of the country as well as other communities around Atlanta. In fact, the highest modeled residential level of EO emissions from our Smyrna facility is 5 to 20 times below average EO levels found in other communities across the country.¹ With the enhancements we are proposing to the EPD, the minimal EO emissions from our Smyrna facility will be reduced even further.

EO is a vital resource in the sterilization of medical products and devices. For many of the products sterilized at our Smyrna facility, including surgical kits, radiological syringes, catheters and other products which are essential in today's hospitals, EO sterilization is the only process that meets sterility standards established by the Food and Drug Administration. The same properties that make EO such an important resource for sterilization also require that it is controlled carefully. We take our responsibility for the safe handling and control of EO very seriously which is precisely why we are working with the Georgia EPD to implement these improvements.

¹ Based on comparison of modeled EO level of 0.02 ug/m³ from the Georgia EPD report to levels ranging between 0.10 ug/m³ to 0.40 ug/m³ from American Chemistry Council data.



Sterigenics is committed to the safety of the communities in which we operate, our employees and the patients we serve. We follow rigorous safety protocols at our Smyrna facility and at all of our facilities and are committed to continuously improving our operations in the ongoing interest of public safety. We would be happy to discuss these matters further with you and your fellow residents to reassure you that you are safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Macnabb".

Philip Macnabb
President