



October 13, 2009

Charles E. Bunch  
Chairman and CEO  
PPG World Headquarters  
One PPG Place  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
15272 USA

Dear Mr. Bunch:

As members of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), we represent an organization of over 275 Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish institutional investors, investment advisory firms, and the pension funds and endowments of major denominations, hospital corporations, foundations and religious communities. Several signatories are also members of the Investor Environmental Health Network (IEHN) a collaborative partnership of investment managers, advised by nongovernmental organizations, concerned about the financial and public health risks associated with corporate toxic chemicals policies.

As investors collectively overseeing in excess of \$3 billion under management, including 17,400 shares in PPG Industries, we are writing today to seek clarification on PPG Industries' policies with respect to community engagement and accountability.

Our request stems from a May 2009 report by noted scientist Wilma Subra and the Subra Company<sup>1</sup> that links our company's chemical emissions from its Lake Charles, LA facility to documented medical conditions afflicting residents of neighboring Mossville.

The report analyzes the 2007 chemical emissions from 5 industrial facilities operating in close geographic proximity to Mossville, the medical conditions scientifically linked to human exposure, and findings of a health survey conducted on Mossville residents. Thirty-two chemicals were identified by source and by their association to major medical conditions (including dizziness, skin and eye irritations, and respiratory ailments). PPG's Lake Charles plant receives frequent mention in the study. In fact, PPG was named as an industrial source for over 60% of the chemicals associated with medical ailments. This was the highest correlation rate of the 5 industrial plants analyzed in the study. Additionally, 11 of 32 chemicals were repeatedly detected in elevated concentrations in air quality tests. PPG's Lake Charles plant was named as a source for 8 of the 11 chemicals consistently found in high concentrations.

The community of Mossville is sick. According to Toxic Release Inventory data from 1987-2006, industrial plants surrounding Mossville, including PPG, reported releasing 4 million pounds, annualized, of toxic chemicals into the air, water and land. Citizens of a

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<sup>1</sup> *Chemical and Industrial Sources of the Chemicals Associated with the Medical Symptoms and Health Conditions of Mossville Residents*, Wilma Subra, May 25, 2009

vibrant African American community once rich in biodiversity and free from chemical contamination are now fighting for life, health and security of their own homes. For many years residents experienced illnesses - cancers, rashes, and chronic respiratory and reproductive diseases – which finally compelled the Federal Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to begin blood testing in 1998. Dioxin found in residents' blood reached levels three times the concentration found in the general population. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also conducted tests which revealed that Mossville residents were exposed to an average concentration of 30 parts per billion of vinyl chloride, significantly above the ambient air quality standard set at 0.47 parts per billion to protect human health. In addition, University of Texas researchers found 91 percent of the residents suffering from at least one disease related to toxic chemical exposure.<sup>2</sup>

Despite these findings, corporations operating in close proximity to Mossville have not implemented community engagement policies and practices that adequately satisfy the community's need for medical assistance, relocation options, and pollution reduction. Failing to remedy the damaging effect of toxic releases, in our view, presents significant reputational and litigation risk to PPG Industries, long-term shareowner value, and to the community's human right to health and the continuous improvement of living conditions.

We therefore request responses to the following questions with respect to community engagement and accountability so we can accurately assess PPG Industries' role in mitigating health and environmental risks in Mossville and other communities where you operate.

- How does the corporation integrate community environmental accountability into its current code of conduct and ongoing business practices?
- How does PPG track and communicate the impact of its operations on community health and well-being?
- How does PPG Industries make available reports regarding its emissions and environmental impact on land, water, and soil – both within its permits and emergency emissions – to members of the communities where it operates?
- What emergency procedures and policies are in place in the event of a catastrophic incident including the frequency of simulated emergency response procedures, community agencies engaged in the development of procedures, and protocol for notifying and evacuating community members?
- What policies and procedures are used to manage and resolve conflict and address grievances in the communities where you operate?
- In view of the cumulative impact on local communities of PPG's emissions and those of other corporations, what steps, if any, has PPG taken to reduce emissions below levels required by applicable regulations, and what initiatives, if any, has PPG taken to work collaboratively with the other major dischargers identified in the Subra report to collectively reduce emissions to levels below those required by applicable regulations.

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<sup>2</sup> *Industrial Sources of Dioxin Poisoning in Mossville, LA: A Report Based on the Government's Own Data, Mossville Environmental Action Now, Inc. et al, July 2007*

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to receiving a response from you by October 30, 2009. Susan Baker at Trillium Asset Management Corporation (711 Atlantic Ave. Boston, MA 02111, [sbaker@trilliuminvest.com](mailto:sbaker@trilliuminvest.com)) will forward your reply to the other signatories.

Sincerely,

Susan Baker  
Social Research Analyst  
Trillium Asset Management Corporation

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