Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-1304

January 16, 2020

Mr. Bill Perry
Director of Standards and Guidance
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Dear Director Perry,

We write to share the urgent concerns of the communities and families we represent regarding adherence to worksite standards and conditions at the Crawford Coal Plant demolition project located at W 35th Pl, Chicago, IL 60623. As representatives at the federal, state, and local jurisdictions overseeing the Crawford Coal Plant location, we take the safety of our constituents and any projects that could compromise their safety very seriously.

Community members have raised concerns surrounding the safety conditions of the Crawford Coal Plant, where one of our constituents recently lost his life in an unfortunate incident on Crawford Coal Plant demolition project site. It is our understanding a report from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is under way to explore the conditions of the site but may take up to six months to be completed. We ask for the report to be completed in an expeditious manner and be made public to ensure transparency of conditions at the work site and to ensure the health and safety of other workers.

We request your prompt response to the following questions:

- 1. What OSHA regulatory requirements, safety measures, and standards must all companies comply with during a demolition project?
- 2. Based on those identified standards, how did the Crawford Coal Plant fare in meeting those standards when the project was approved?
- 3. Is there a report that can be made available to the public demonstrating the safety standards met by the project?
- 4. Have any complaints or concerns been filed to OSHA regarding the safety of working conditions for the project? If so, can complaints be made available?
- 5. When an unfortunate incident occurs, what are the next steps OSHA undertakes to ensure the regulatory safety of other workers involved in the project?

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We respectfully request that your agency provide timely responses to these queries and any relevant documentation to demonstrate that the demolition project meets all relevant regulatory requirements. We encourage representatives from your respective offices be available for meetings with community residents to address these concerns. Further, we urge you to ensure the project be conducted with transparency and that requests for reports and information are fulfilled throughout the duration of the process.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your responses. For any questions regarding this matter, please contact Patty Garcia with Congressman García's office at Patty.Garcia@mail.house.gov or (773) 475-0883.

Sincerely,

Jesús G. "Chuy" García

Member of Congress

Illinois' 4th Congressional District

Jasie & Garin

Celina Villanueva

State Senator

Illinois' 11th State Senate District

Edgar Gonzalez, Jr.

State Representative

Illinois' 21st State House District

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