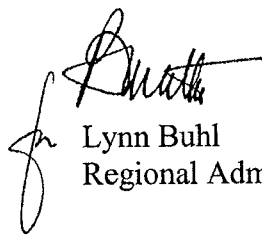


that some PRPs may have an inability to pay a portion or the entire amount of EPA's cost. Therefore, EPA intends to consider settling for an appropriately adjusted amount where a PRP demonstrates an inability, or limited ability, to pay. To ensure fairness among all PRPs and to fulfill EPA responsibilities under CERCLA, EPA will carefully consider the financial information provided by a PRP in accordance with CERCLA 122(g)(7) and guided by EPA's September 30, 1997 policy on Superfund ability to pay determinations.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mary Canavan or Ronna Beckmann, the Regional 5 Congressional Liaisons, at 312-886-3000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Buhl", is written over a horizontal dashed line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Lynn Buhl
Regional Administrator