VIANT
WE'RE IN IT FOR LIFE.

Dear Resident,

Recently, our Grand Rapids facility located at 520 Watson SW, was the focus of media reports involving air quality. **This letter is intended to provide accurate information about the operations at our Grand Rapids facility and to let you know that we have decided to close our sterilization operations later this year.**

Viant is an ISO-certified medical device contract manufacturer specializing in the production and assembly of medical components and devices. We purchased the plant in 2015. While we employ approximately 450 people in Grand Rapids, there are only 12 workers assigned to the sterilization facility. Sterilization services make up a very small part of our overall business model and operations.

A substance called ethylene oxide is used during the sterilization process. This substance is used to sterilize specific medical devices that may not be suited for other sterilization methodologies, such as catheters and connectors. Our use is authorized and regulated under a permit issued by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

In July 2017, we informed the MDEQ about an emissions issue resulting from a faulty rubber seal on a part of the sterilization system. We immediately stopped operations and repaired the seal. We later received a notice of violation from the MDEQ as a result of that self-reported incident. Since then, we have worked closely with the MDEQ to test and monitor air quality at the plant.

The MDEQ has scheduled a community meeting to address questions about air quality near our plant but has not invited Viant to present information about our operations at that meeting. Therefore, we felt it would be helpful if we shared information about our operation with you.

1. Before the temporary seal malfunction that resulted in our self-reporting of an emissions issue in July 2017, and since the correction of that malfunction within a day of its discovery, Viant has operated within the regulatory standards established under our MDEQ permit.

2. Emissions tests performed on December 6, 2018 by an independent air quality assessment firm determined that Viant is in compliance with its MDEQ permit limits and limits set by the Subpart O of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants.

3. A 24-hour ethylene oxide sampling plan conducted by the MDEQ on November 29-30, 2018, which resulted in additional regulatory action, was not consistent with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency testing practices, which take into consideration sampling location and the influence of other sources of ethylene oxide, including automotive exhaust fumes.

4. Viant has been in contact with key stakeholders, including Grand Valley State University, the City of Grand Rapids and the Kent County Health Department, to make sure they have updated information involving our operations and will continue to work closely with these entities.

5. And, as mentioned earlier, Viant's leadership has decided to shut down the sterilization facility because that work is not part of our core business. We will operate the plant in compliance with our permit until that shut down occurs.

Please keep in mind that the MDEQ itself has stated that it is not concerned about short-term health effects resulting from the emissions from our plant. Responding to an inquiry made by Grand Valley State University, MDEQ Air Toxics Unit Supervisor Robert Sills stated that the MDEQ "has found no reason to be concerned about short-term health effects at the level of emissions and exposure we think are occurring" and that "we are not recommending that anyone change their behavior or leave the area."

We hope you find this information helpful as you assess the status of air quality near our plant. If you have any questions, we encourage you to contact us via email at GRInfo@viantmedical.com.