

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President
P.O. Box 399
Institute, West Virginia 25112
(304) 766-3249
Fax (304) 768-4251
E-mail: eppsgr@wvstateu.edu



Mr. Nick Crosby, Plant Manager
Bayer Crop Science
Building 2
P.O. Box 1005
Institute, WV 25112

August 29, 2008

Dear Mr. Crosby:

Following the incident on the evening of August 28, the purpose of this correspondence is to express concern for the safety and well-being of students and employees of West Virginia State University, West Virginia State Community and Technical College, my family, and citizens in the local community. At the time of the explosion at the Bayer plant, there were approximately 500 persons on our campus. Thousands of "State" students, faculty, staff, and alumni live in the Greater Kanawha Valley.

Your commitment to repair the emergency telephone at our 24-hour Work Control Center was greatly appreciated. Shortly after the blast, we initiated a direct call to your communications personnel and they responded as they gathered information. The emergency phone facilitated communication between our two organizations.

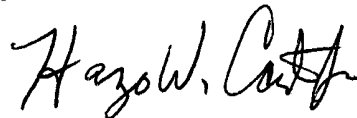
Still, there are concerns. While the personnel at the Bayer facility were dealing directly with the situation, the University staff was dealing with the residual effect of the emergency. The decisions we make regarding the safety of our students are influenced by the information that is provided. After the August 28th incident, I do not believe that enough accurate information was given in a timely manner. This

lapse in communication led to speculation by the media and others which in turn led to inaccurate information being spread formally by the media and informally by word-of-mouth. The actions that the campus and the community need take for safety, whether it be shelter-in-place or evacuation, should be based on complete and accurate information.

It is my understanding that a thorough investigation is being conducted to determine the causes of last night's explosion that impacted the WVSU campus and several communities in the Kanawha Valley. I am requesting that a copy of the investigation report be submitted to me as soon as it is completed.

Your immediate attention to this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Hazo W. Carter, Jr. Ed.D.
President

- c Mr. Eric Coleman, Chair, WVSU Board of Governors
- Dr. Joseph L. Badgley, President , WVSCTC
- Executive Council, WVSU
- Dr. Tom Guetzloff, Chair, WVSU Faculty Senate
- Mrs. Millie Booker, Chair, WVSU Classified Staff Council
- Mr. Nadir Mirza, President, WVSU SGA
- Attorney W. Kent Carper, Chair, Kanawha County Commission
- Mr. Roger Wolfe, Mayor, Dunbar
- Mr. Walter Greenhowe, Chair, Sub-Area Planning Commission
- Mr. Tom Dover, Manager Tenant Services/Public Affairs, Bayer Crop Science