

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 9, 2023

General Thomas A. Bussiere
Commander
Air Force Global Strike Command
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear General Bussiere,

It has been reported that two launch facilities at Malmstrom Air Force Base had levels of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) higher than the recommended Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) threshold.¹ This confirms concerns raised in late January about a connection between nine officers diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma after previously working as Missileers at Malmstrom Air Force Base. According to the EPA, PCBs are an oily or waxy substance that was previously manufactured in the United States and a probable human carcinogen.²

My understanding is that the Air Force is taking immediate action to begin cleaning up the facilities and attempting to mitigate exposure to our servicemembers exposed to hazardous conditions. I appreciated meeting with you in February to receive a briefing on the proposed investigation and the transparency you have shown. I expect that you continue to keep me and the people of Montana abreast of all remediation efforts to eliminate the problem and studies going forward. In addition, I would also like to see the plan of action by the Air Force to notify, examine, and treat those exposed servicemembers.

Missileers play a vital role in providing for our nation's security, and they must be provided a safe work environment. The affected parties and their families must get the care they are entitled to and deserve. Our nation's service members and veterans warrant no less than our full attention, and I appreciate your continued cooperation on this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Matthew M. Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress

¹ <https://apnews.com/article/missile-bases-cancer-air-force-malmstrom-military-1999fad70393f0d141676b7faa587eda>

² <https://www.epa.gov/pcbs/learn-about-polychlorinated-biphenyls>