



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

TCH:RSB:JER:SMC:par  
DJ 166-012-3  
2013-1786

Voting Section - NWB  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

July 18, 2013

Mr. Kevin P. Belanger  
Chief Executive Officer  
P.O. Box 1870  
Gray, Louisiana 70359

Dear Mr. Belanger:

This refers to the 2013 redistricting plan for the City of Thibodaux in LaFourche Parish, Louisiana, submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. We received your submission on May 31, 2013; additional information was received through June 11, 2013.

On June 25, 2013, the United States Supreme Court held that the coverage formula in Section 4(b) of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973b(b), as reauthorized by the Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006, is unconstitutional and can no longer be used as a basis for subjecting jurisdictions to preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. \_\_\_, 2013 WL 3184629 (U.S. June 25, 2013) (No. 12-96). Accordingly, no determination will be made under Section 5 by the Attorney General on the specified change. *Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act*, 28 C.F.R. 51.35. We further note that this is not a determination on the merits and, therefore, should not be construed as a finding regarding whether the specified change complies with any federal voting rights law.

Sincerely,

for T. Eric Rich

T. Christian Herren, Jr.  
Chief, Voting Section

