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Snyder Pledges 'Action Steps' On Flint Water Issues

As attention on Flint water problems trickles into Lansing, Snyder today said he's got a "team" of people working on the matter and promised some "action steps" to come soon.

A recently published study found lead levels in children's blood have increased since the city switched off of Detroit's water supply, instead drawing from the Flint River (See "Higher Lead Levels In Flint Kids Spurs Legislator Action," 9/25/15).

Now lawmakers from the region are asking the state and Snyder to get involved, which the administration said has already been happening (See "Ananich Urges Snyder To Get Involved With Flint Water Situation," 9/28/15).

But Snyder laid out a few more details today, saying the state this week or next would be coming out with "more public action steps" about what's been done and about what still needs to happen in the future.

"I take it as a serious issue about the Flint water situation," he said. The Governor's office later stated that more details on both federal and state efforts are coming soon.

The Flint Journal reported today the Snyder administration helped orchestrate the delivery of water filters to the city. They were distributed to the community by pastors and were donated by an unknown corporate donor, according to the newspaper.

It's been reported that the administration, based on its own data, doesn't believe the source of the water is what's causing the increased lead levels.

"Our data here at the state is much more robust -- we have data on children aged 0-6 for all of Flint for the entire year," said Angela MINICUCI last week, who is a spokesperson for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). "There is no correlation, based on our data, to the water supply."

But Progress Michigan saw the situation as Snyder's administration "publicly denying there's a problem while at the same time quietly working behind the scenes to mitigate the damage," while pointing out the water switch was done under an appointed emergency manager.

Sent from my iPhone