
From: Brown, Jessica (GOV)
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2015 5:05 PM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Governor talking point on Flint

Thanks Brad! As far as what was communicated to me, this is in line with what he was looking for. Appreciate the help!

From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2015 4:57 PM
To: Brown, Jessica (GOV) <BrownJ53@michigan.gov>; Biehl, Laura (GOV) <BiehlL@michigan.gov>
Subject: Governor talking point on Flint

The DEQ continues implementing the Governor's 10-point action plan to protect kids and families in Flint. Worth noting are

1. SCHOOLS TESTING

- The Governor's plan commits that DEQ will test water in every Flint school. To date, 8 schools in Flint have undergone a thorough inspection of their plumbing. Crews from the state are completing one to two schools each weekend.
- The story has been the same in each school inspected: lead exposure has been limited to old drinking fountains and faucets that should have been changed out years ago. When these fixtures are run for a couple minutes, lead presence drops to safe levels. If / when these fixtures are removed, it will address the lead exposure in schools.
- DEQ has not identified lead in the deeper plumbing of the schools. That's great news. It means fixing the issue will be comparatively inexpensive and quick.

2. COMMUNITY WATER TESTING

- Since September, more than 500 residents have taken advantage of free home water sampling through the DEQ lab. Results are updated regularly on the DEQ web site, www.michigan.gov/FLINTWATER.
- Residents are encouraged to continue taking advantage of this free service, but also are encouraged to get kids tested for blood lead levels.

3. LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

- The only way to remove the threat of lead exposure in drinking water is to remove sources like old faucets and lead service lines. The DEQ is working with the city to develop a long-term plan for removing the service lines. This is complicated because the service line is the portion that runs from the city system to the residence. It's the part that is mostly on private property and is generally considered the customer's responsibility.

- DEQ worked with Congressman Kildee to get EPA approval to use Revolving Loan Fund dollars to accomplish lead service line replacement.

OTHER VARIOUS ISSUES:

Cong. Kildee has renewed calls for loan forgiveness in Flint. The city owes the state approximately \$20.8 million for past loans, and they're scheduled to be paid off in 2024. DEQ cannot forgive old loans; we can, however, build loan forgiveness into new loans. Forgiveness is presently capped at 30 percent on new loans.

City has called on DEQ to pay for fixes to the broader water distribution system on the idea that running river water through the system for 14 months ruined it. That's an unproven statement. The system has been in a serious state of disrepair for many years. We have not addressed this issue in the media. We are focused on the Governor's plan.

Lawmakers have called for the state to create a fund to provide wraparound services for the (Kildee says 7,000) kids exposed to Flint water situation. Don't know where the 7,000 number came from. DHHS has numbers of kids who actually have elevated blood lead levels. Again, not an issue we've addressed or plan to.

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PPI (cell)