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**From:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 12:39 PM  
**To:** Ronald Fonger  
**Subject:** RE: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

Yeah. He sent us a FOIA this morning mentioning that.

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**From:** Ronald Fonger [<mailto:RFONGER1@mlive.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 12:16 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)  
**Subject:** RE: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

Thanks. I hope you understand that the nut of the story was in fact the VT release of the information on lead on its Web site.

After I saw your comment questioning the certification of VT as a water testing facility, I also contacted professor Edwards, who explained in great detail why they are not state certified as well as proving me background on their reputation in the area of drinking water.

That's why I decided to set aside that particular part of your comment – at least in the initial story.

You might also notice I added more of your statement in the comments section of the story.

As always, I appreciate your help and information you provided.

Hope you appreciate that I needed to get several voices in the story in addition to yours.

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**From:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) [<mailto:WurfelB@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 12:09 PM  
**To:** Ronald Fonger  
**Subject:** RE: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

Busch is out. I'm working to get either his subordinate, Mike Prysby, who worked with the city directly on the ask for optimization, or his supervisor, Richard Benzie. Or maybe both.

I get that the news yesterday was the announcement by the VT researcher, Ron. But I was disappointed to see how little of what I sent you made it in. I'm putting my folks up in the hope that it offers clarity to the situation.

Thanks,

b

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**From:** Ronald Fonger [<mailto:RFONGER1@mlive.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 11:25 AM  
**To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)  
**Subject:** RE: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

I just sent the mayor an email asking to talk to him about it.

The city PR guy is also supposed to be sending out a news release this morning that concerns the TTHM and lead.

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**From:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) [<mailto:WurfelB@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 11:22 AM  
**To:** Ronald Fonger  
**Subject:** RE: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

Is the city talking with you on this issue?

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**From:** Ronald Fonger [<mailto:RFONGER1@mlive.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 11:13 AM  
**To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)  
**Subject:** FW: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

Brad:

Can you help me with some information from the DEQ regarding this email, sent by the U.S. EPA enforcement team leader in Region 5?

It seems to say the U.S. EPA has offered the city the assistance of a lead expert and sent the information to the DEQ as well. I'm following up the a PR contact at the U.S. EPA on this and about the more general federal interest in the lead in water issue in Flint.

Thanks,

**Ron Fonger**  
 MLive Media Group  
 Reporter

**PPI**

email [rfonger1@mlive.com](mailto:rfonger1@mlive.com)  
 address 540 S. Saginaw St. #101, Flint MI 48502

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**From:** Arthur Woodson [[mailto:arthuriw\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:arthuriw_2000@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 9:52 AM  
**To:** Ronald Fonger  
**Subject:** Fw: U.S. EPA Lead Expert

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**From:** Shoven, Heather <[shoven.heather@epa.gov](mailto:shoven.heather@epa.gov)>;  
**To:** [arthuriw\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:arthuriw_2000@yahoo.com) <[arthuriw\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:arthuriw_2000@yahoo.com)>;  
**Subject:** U.S. EPA Lead Expert  
**Sent:** Mon, Aug 31, 2015 5:55:41 PM

Dear Mr. Woodson:

Thank you for your call on Friday.

In follow-up to your inquiry on U.S. EPA lead experts, I had a conversation with Dr. Darren Lytle, who is the Acting Chief of the Treatment Technology Evaluation Branch in the Water Supply and Water Resources Division within EPA's Office of Research and Development. Scientists within Dr. Lytle's branch have expertise in drinking water treatment including corrosion control to address lead contamination. We passed along Dr. Lytle's information to both MDEQ and Flint's Mayor, Dayne Walling, for consideration to work with Flint's Technical Advisory Committee.

You mentioned that you wanted to provide the Flint City Council with this information since Mayor Walling has not shared EPA's assistance offer with the Council. I have left a voicemail message with Councilwoman Monica Galloway regarding your inquiry since it is critical that the Council work with the City and the State to discuss next steps for the Flint Water system.

Please let me know if you have any follow-up questions.

Best wishes,

Heather

Heather A. Shoven | Enforcement Team Leader | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

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