
From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 6:25 PM
To: Thelen, Mary Beth (DEQ)
Subject: Fwd: Michigan Radio/NPR interview request

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu>
Date: October 6, 2015 at 11:32:33 AM EDT
To: "Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)" <WurfelB@michigan.gov>
Subject: Re: Michigan Radio/NPR interview request

Hi Brad,

Just following up about the interview possibility---is someone from DEQ available to be a guest on *Stateside* this week? We can do this by phone if that works best.

Two main things we would like to discuss: what was done before the switch to study the Flint River and why DEQ did not require Flint to put corrosion control in place at the time of the switch.

If possible, I would like to schedule this between 10:00A - 2:00P on Wednesday (10/7) or Thursday (10/8).

Please let me know this afternoon whether it would be possible to set something up.

Thanks again,
Alli

On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 2:22 PM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>

> Understandable. Thanks for trying to make it work, Brad.

>

> In his interview, Edwards made several accusations that the state mishandled the lead-in-water crisis (which he outlines in greater detail here.)

>

> Highlights:

>

> - MDEQ failed to require corrosion control for Flint River water

> - MDEQ misinformed the USEPA about Flint's corrosion control

> - MDEQ revised the original LCR report which would have triggered federal law requiring residents be warned

>

> I know the show starts in an hour but we would like to have your reaction. If you prefer, we

could read a written statement on today's program.

>

> If not, let's schedule a time for an interview early next week. Unfortunately we do not have a show tomorrow.

>

> Thanks again,

> Alli

>

> On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 1:45 PM, Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Alli, my apologies. I'm in back to back meetings on this today and I just can't make it happen.

>> We are planning an announcement, and I will get that to you as soon as the media advisory is finalized.

>> Happy to schedule a time tomorrow for an interview, but the timing is just not working today.

>> Again, sorry. Never my preference to miss an opportunity, and I appreciate your invitation.

>> b

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>> On Oct 1, 2015, at 1:04 PM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>>

>> Another update: I called and was able to reschedule our 1:25 interview so let me know if/when DEQ is available before 2:00 pm.

>>

>> On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 12:57 PM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>>>

>>> Quick update: we've got another interview scheduled from 1:25-1:35 this afternoon. Otherwise, available up until 2 pm.

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>> On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 11:24 AM, Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Might be me. Working on that.

>>>>

>>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>>

>>>> On Oct 1, 2015, at 11:23 AM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> That works for us. I appreciate your help with this.

>>>>

>>>> Just to be clear: Cyndy will be speaking with you or we don't know yet?

>>>>

>>>> Thanks again,

>>>> Alli

>>>>

>>>> On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 11:13 AM, Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Not confident that would be a productive format even if I could swing it.

>>>>> On a conference call with EPA. Not sure when it will conclude, but I will make something happen for the noon - 1 slot.

>>>>> Thanks, Alli.

>>>>> b

>>>>>

>>>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>>>

>>>>> On Oct 1, 2015, at 11:04 AM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> The idea was to get Edwards and DEQ in the same interview but we could also work out a conversation at a different time slot.

>>>>>

>>>>> Cyndy (Stateside host) is available this afternoon between 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm as well as at 2:00 pm.

>>>>>

>>>>> The show airs at 3 o'clock so that's about as late as we could push it.

>>>>>

>>>>> Let me know what works best.

>>>>>

>>>>> On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 10:59 AM, Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov> wrote:

>>>>>>

>>>>>> The time is going to be tough. But I'll find a way to get you someone, even if it's me. Can you work out a conversation at a different time slot, or was the idea to get Edwards and DEQ in the same interview?

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Sent from my iPhone

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>>>>>> On Oct 1, 2015, at 10:38 AM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Hi Brad,

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Sounds like you're in meetings all day so I just wanted to reiterate that the phone interview with Marc Edwards is at 11:35 am.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> If someone from the DEQ is interested in discussing the lead corrosion problem in Flint but cannot make 11:35 am work, please let me know.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> My deadline is at 11:00 am.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Thank you!

>>>>>>

>>>>>>

>>>>>> On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 9:49 AM, Alexandra Billings <allibill@umich.edu> wrote:

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>> Hi Brad,

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>> Alli here with Michigan Radio - I help with booking for Stateside with Cynthia Canty. On today's show, we're speaking with Virginia Tech's Marc Edwards about Flint's water problems.

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>> I would like to see if someone from the DEQ (Mike Prysby or Dan Wyant) would be interested in joining the conversation.

>>>>>>>

>>>>>> The interview is at 11:35 am so I would need to know as soon as possible.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Two main things we would like to discuss: how the city conducted testing for lead and why DEQ did not require Flint to put corrosion control in place at the time of the switch.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> The interview would be pre-recorded, not live, and would take about 10-15 minutes. A land line is preferred.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> When you have a moment, please let me know.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Thanks!

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>>>>>> --

>>>>>> Alexandra Billings

>>>>>> Broadcast Producer

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