From: Prysby, Mike (DEQ)
To: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Feuerstein, Heather (DEQ); Willard, Veronica (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Subject: Media Inquiry
Date: Monday, October 13, 2014 3:47:46 PM

Ron Fonger from the Flint Journal called me today concerning the GM Engine manufacturing plant in Flint and their intent to temporarily terminate water service from Flint and purchase water from Genesee County (via Flint Twp) until Flint is either treating water from KWA or reducing their chloride concentration from their treated water that meets GM's limit for manufacturing. Ron asked if elevated chlorides are a health concern in Flint. I looked up Flint's MOR and noted that the treated water chloride concentration leaving the WTP ranges between 55 and 65 mg/l which, although not optimal (optimal being <20 mg/l), is satisfactory. Concentrations > 250 mg/l become objectionable due to taste & corrosion issues; however, based on the concentration leaving the WTP, we did not have any health-effect concerns. Ron was not able to recall the maximum chloride level acceptable to GM; however, I stressed the importance of not branding Flint's water as "corrosive" from a public health standpoint simply because it does not meet a manufacturing facility's limit for production. Ron also asked if the treatment process adds chloride. I explained that their primary coagulant is ferric chloride and this does add some chloride to the finished water; however, raw water chloride concentration is generally in the mid 40s mg/l; thus, the contribution from ferric chloride is not significant.

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