

From: [Prysby, Mike \(DEQ\)](#)
To: [Busch, Stephen \(DEQ\)](#); [Benzie, Richard \(DEQ\)](#)
Cc: [Shekter Smith, Liane \(DEQ\)](#)
Subject: RE: Flint
Date: Thursday, November 13, 2014 10:00:40 AM

My call to Tom Poy went as follows:

- **Duration of drinking water advisory has been ongoing for several months.**

Complainant may have misunderstood the 30-day TCR violation notices as a continuation of the contamination and BWA. The city issued two of these notices for the TCR violation that occurred in August and again in September.

- **Main breaks are repaired only after the pressure of media coverage.**

We could not confirm this; however, we maintain frequent contact the city Water Service Center (Dist OIC) concerning main breaks and valve repairs. Visible main breaks are repaired as soon as possible.

- **Animal mortality is associated with drinking Flint water.**

We could not confirm this.

- **Drinking water advisories were issued only at certain public schools.**

The BWA issued in September affected approx. one sixth of the city's land area; thus several public schools were likely impacted. The public schools outside of the affected area were not impacted by the BWA and precautionary measures were not required.

- **Water is trucked into City Hall.**

We are not aware of this. We are certain that city hall remains connected to Flint's distribution system and obtains water from the

WTP. It is possible that city hall employees bring in their own bottled water (for personal preference) or a water dispenser may be utilized.

Michael Prysby, P.E.
District Engineer
Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
517 290-8817

From: Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 9:16 AM
To: Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint

FYI.

Mike called Tom Poy yesterday and spoke to him regarding the complaint detailed below.

Stephen Busch, P.E.
Lansing and Jackson District Supervisor
Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
MDEQ
517-643-2314

From: Poy, Thomas [<mailto:poy.thomas@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 2:38 PM
To: Benzie, Richard (DEQ); Crooks, Jennifer
Cc: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint

Liane/Richard: FYI..Someone called the EPA Office of Inspector General's hotline with a complaint about Flint's drinking water. The OIG forwarded a log of the call with the name of the complainant redacted.

Complaint Details

Summary: Complainant calling regarding drinking water in Flint, Michigan.

Details: Complainant states the water in Flint, Michigan is not fit to drink. For several months they have been told by city officials not to drink, bathe or cook with the water. Complainant states a water scientist advised him that dogs have died and have been buried in the city water. Complainant states that some of the water mains have been broken for 2 – 3 months and only got fixed when the t.v. crews came and filmed it. Complainant states the Emergency Manager, Garnelle Early, and the city Mayor, Dane Walling stated the city was paying too much to get their water from Detroit and that they need get it from Parragondy Water Pipe Line. Complainant states the Mayor is President of the Parragondy Water Pipe Line. Complainant states the Mayor's children go to a

public school and that their school has been advised not to drink the water and for the students to bring their own drinking water and the other public schools have not been told this. Also that water is trucked into city hall.

I know that you and your staff have been working with the Flint utility on their water quality and distribution system issues. Have you heard about one school being advised not to drink the water while the others have not? Or city hall getting alternate water?

Tom

Tom Poy
Chief, Ground Water and Drinking Water Branch
USEPA - Region 5
(312) 886-5991

From: Benzie, Richard (DEQ) [<mailto:BENZIER@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Poy, Thomas; Crooks, Jennifer
Cc: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); shechterl@michigan.gov
Subject: Flint

Tom and Jennifer,

I received a phone call from an unidentified individual who wanted to talk to someone responsible for clean drinking water in the city of Flint. I told him that Michigan has adopted the Safe Drinking Water Act and has primary enforcement responsibility for this program. I provided him with the names of the district supervisor and district engineer that oversee this system, but he didn't want their telephone numbers because he wasn't going to waste his time with them.

He really wanted to talk to someone in Washington. I told him the EPA Administrator was Gina McCarthy, but I did not have her number or any of the others at headquarters because we work with the Region 5 EPA office. He asked for contact information, so I provided him with Tom's telephone number. I'm letting you know so you will hopefully be prepared to deal with the fact that he doesn't want to discuss this matter with the state.

I just talked to him again, as he called the OEA saying the number I gave him (312-886-5991) was incorrect, but he may have had it wrong initially. I offered to give him Jennifer Crooks phone number, and he was adamant that he did not want to talk to her. I suspect he has called about this issue previously.

Good luck.

Richard