

**From:** [Benzie, Richard \(DEQ\)](#)  
**To:** [Shekter Smith, Liane \(DEQ\)](#); [Krisztian, George \(DEQ\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Sygo, Jim \(DEQ\)](#); [Busch, Stephen \(DEQ\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: MDHHS - draft Phosphate Factsheet - Request - [Preliminary and Deliberative Draft - not subject to FOIA]  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 24, 2015 3:10:48 PM

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I was not involved in the decision on how much supplemental phosphate should be added when the city returned to DWSD water.

My only other comment has to do with the first statement under the question, "Why is phosphate being added to our water?" The answer begins with, "Homes built before 1986 are more likely to have lead service lines and pipes." It is my understanding that lead piping for service lines or household plumbing has not been used in Michigan since World War II.

The reference to 1986 likely comes from the fact that 1986 was the year EPA banned the use of solder containing 50% lead, and at the same time, formally defined lead free brass as being less than 8% lead. This change was incorporated into Michigan's State Plumbing Code in 1988, so in this state, June of 1988 is often cited as the point at which high lead content solder and plumbing components were prohibited from being used.

It would be more accurate to remove the reference to lead service lines and pipes in that sentence, or at least separate them from the 1986 reference, and use an older time reference for indicating which homes may still have lead service lines or lead piping.

Richard Benzie, P.E., Chief  
 Field Operations Section  
 Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance, MDEQ  
 517-284-6512

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**From:** Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2015 1:45 PM  
**To:** Krisztian, George (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)  
**Cc:** Sygo, Jim (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ)  
**Subject:** FW: MDHHS - draft Phosphate Factsheet - Request - [Preliminary and Deliberative Draft - not subject to FOIA]

FYI – not sure who else should be asked to provide comments.

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**From:** Groetsch, Kory J. (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2015 11:27 AM  
**To:** Sygo, Jim (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)  
**Cc:** Dykema, Linda D. (DHHS)  
**Subject:** MDHHS - draft Phosphate Factsheet - Request - [Preliminary and Deliberative Draft - not subject to FOIA]

Hello Jim, Liane, and Stephen,

MDHHS has created a one-page Phosphate factsheet that is in the final stages of review.

We would appreciate your review of this statement:

**The City of Flint, MDEQ, and the EPA worked together to find how much phosphate is needed to help quickly coat the pipes with scale.**

Is it accurate to include MDEQ and/or US EPA in this statement?

We are always open to additional comments and edits, if you have them.

We appreciate your attention to this request.

Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager  
Toxicology and Response Section  
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)  
201 Townsend St.  
Lansing, MI 48913  
517-335-9935  
[groetschk@michigan.gov](mailto:groetschk@michigan.gov)

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