

Dykema, Linda D. (DHHS)

From: Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 2:41 PM
To: Moran, Susan (DCH); Travis, Rashmi (DCH)
Cc: Robinson, Mikelle (DCH); Miller, Mark (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Bien, Stan (DCH); Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

Yes, drinking water is an MDEQ issue and Linda's toxicologists (Kory and his staff) has been in communication with the MDEQ about messaging.

Per the MDEQ, the compliance monitoring for lead within the city has never exceeded the EPA action level for lead.

One family did receive considerable media attention because the drinking water coming into their home had very high lead levels. The lead in their tap water was due to an anomaly. A number of years ago, the city had replaced water main pipes but this home, unlike every other house in the neighborhood, did not get hooked up to the new system. The family was getting its water from the old system. No other homes in the area had high lead levels measured at the tap. Once this home was properly hooked up to the newer system the problem stopped.

There may be homes with old lead pipes that are within the homeowner's responsibility. The city's responsibility goes to the border of the property.

The water treatment plant has also been vigorous about chlorination thus the MDEQ requested that they use some strategies to mitigate the effect of chlorine on pipe corrosion.

Corinne

From: Moran, Susan (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:57 AM
To: Travis, Rashmi (DCH)
Cc: Robinson, Mikelle (DCH); Miller, Mark (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Bien, Stan (DCH)
Subject: Re: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

FYI Front office also asking about Flint water, let's make sure we are communicating consistently. Copying Lynda and Corrine.

While this is a public health concern, this is largely DEQ/local jurisdiction.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 17, 2015, at 11:50 AM, Travis, Rashmi (DCH) <TravisR@michigan.gov> wrote:

Sue, Mikelle, and Mark,
 I wanted you all to be aware of these questions from Flint and the water supply. Our WIC and Lead Program have been working on it.
 Please let me know if you have any questions.
 Thanks,
 Rashmi

From: Bien, Stan (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:47 AM
To: Bartholomew, Anne - FNS
Cc: Hillman, Bruce - FNS; Travis, Rashmi (DCH); Hanulcik, Kristen (DCH); Baker, Mary A. (DCH)
Subject: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue
Importance: High

Hi Anne – In follow up to our phone discussion, attached is info our staff obtained this morning on the water issue.

As discussed, this is a Public Health issue, not just WIC. As of now, there has been no 'official advisory' to not use the water and our SNAP clients can purchase water with their benefits if so needed. Per the WIC Regs, we must have special justification to issue RTF of 'if the water is unsanitary or restricted'.

We will continue to work with our Lead Program and monitor the situation. Thank you.

*Stan Bien, Director
 Michigan WIC Program - BFMCH
 Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
 320 South Walnut Street - 6th Floor
 Lansing, MI 48913
 517.335.8448*

From: Bartholomew, Anne - FNS [<mailto:Anne.Bartholomew@fns.usda.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:22 AM
To: Bien, Stan (DCH)
Cc: Hillman, Bruce - FNS
Subject: Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

Hi Stan,
 Bruce suggested that I contact you directly. I did leave a voice mail. We have an urgent request from the USDA Secretary on behalf of a Congressperson about a problem with high lead levels in water supply in Flint, MI. We are wondering what steps, if any, that Michigan WIC has taken with respect to this issue. Has Michigan WIC determined a need to issue ready-to-feed for affected participants? If yes, is this being done on an individual basis or universally to those living in the affected area. The Secretary has requested a quick response so your attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,
Anne

Anne Bartholomew M.S., R.D.
 Supplemental Food Programs Division
 Branch Chief, Nutrition Services

<mime-attachment>