



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
EXECUTIVE DIVISION

INFORMATION TRANSMITTAL AND REQUEST FOR GOVERNOR'S ACTION

TO: Governor Rick Snyder via Jean Hall

FROM: Dan Wyant, Director

DATE: November 3, 2015

SUBJECT: Task Force Point of Contact Designation Letter to Susan Hedman, Regional Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Action Taken by DEQ (action requested of Governor's Office in parentheses)	
☒	Letter (for Governor's signature – draft attached)
☐	Printed Material (for Governor's signature – attached)
☐	Proclamation Request (for Governor's signature – draft attached)
☐	Telephone Call (for Governor's information – explanation given under "Situation Description")
☐	Other:

Governor's Action Requested By: November 16, 2015

Situation Description: During an October 20 conference call between the USEPA and DEQ regarding USEPA's establishment of the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force, the USEPA requested that Governor Snyder designate a DEQ point of contact for the Task Force. Attached are a draft letter to be signed by Governor Snyder, the October 21 Flint Drinking Water Action Plan Update regarding the conference call, and USEPA's October 16 press release regarding the establishment of the Task Force. Please contact Karen Shaler, Executive Division, DEQ, at shalerk@michigan.gov when the letter is ready to be picked up. Thank you.

Contact Person's Name: Jim Sygo, Chief Deputy Director
DEQ Division/Office: Executive Division
Telephone: 517-284-6709
E-Mail Address: sygoj@michigan.gov

Governor's Response (for Governor's Office use only):

Flint Drinking Water Action Plan Update

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- Action Step #1 has been incorporated into the After Action Plan (Action Step #4).
- It was determined that the information in Action Step #10 would be communicated better in person and has, therefore, been incorporated into Action Step #13.
- DEQ staff has tentatively identify the week of October 26 to meet with representatives from the remaining 10 locations in the Flint Community Schools who were not present at the October 16 meeting at the Superintendent's office.
- DEQ staff has contacted DHHS to request a meeting regarding lead education materials for schools.
- The first plumbing assessment has been scheduled for Friday, October 23. The subsequent sampling of the first facility has been scheduled for Saturday, October 24. This decision was made jointly among DEQ, DLARA, and DHHS in an effort to ensure that sampling staff could properly evaluate the sampling protocol without the added pressure of completing the sampling process before students arrived on-site.
- The DEQ Laboratory has created a fillable PDF form for use in the school sampling protocol. This form was created to streamline the information gathering process. The form was submitted for review by staff in DEQ, DHHS, and DLARA, and comments were subsequently incorporated. The form is now complete and ready for use.
- The corrosion control treatment plan (CCTP) and permit application were received late last Friday, October 16, and were reviewed. Our review comments were provided to Flint's consultant [Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc. (LAN)]. The CCTP was forwarded to EPA on October 16, and their comments were received on October 19. A conference call was held on October 20 between our staff and Darren Lytle and Michael Schock of EPA to discuss the main comments (EPA's and DEQ's) to confirm that both agencies concur with the design and proposed corrosion control dosages. We are currently preparing a revised set of comments, based on our discussion with EPA. The revised comments will be sent to EPA to confirm concurrence before sending to LAN.
- An Act 399 permit will be issued to the city of Flint to install corrosion control treatment following receipt of revised plans, specs, and – as needed – a permit application that addresses the revised review comments.
- DEQ staff has contacted DHHS to schedule a meeting to discuss the development of childcare facility guidance. This guidance will be similar in nature to what is being done in schools but will be tailored to address the specific

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Flint Drinking Water Action Plan Update

Page 2

concerns with younger children and the smaller plumbing infrastructure of typical childcare facilities.

Additional Actions:

- Standing meetings with the city of Flint have been scheduled for Fridays at 10:00 a.m. These meetings have been scheduled through December 18. In addition, a tour of the Flint Water Treatment Plant has been scheduled for October 23. The DEQ be taking video footage of the tour, showing the coordinated efforts being taken by the city of Flint, DEQ, DHHS, and DLARA. Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) has been invited to the Friday meetings as well as the tour, and GCHD is in the process of determining if they can participate.
- A meeting was held between staff from the DEQ, DLARA, and DHHS to discuss details regarding the flow and coordination of efforts for the school sampling protocol. It was mutually agreed that it was best to only do one school at first so that we can ensure that the process runs smoothly from partner to partner. The first plumbing evaluation will be done at Freeman Elementary School on Friday, October 23. Steve Busch of the DEQ will accompany staff from DLARA to answer questions they might have during their plumbing evaluations. The subsequent water sampling effort will take place the next day, on Saturday, October 24. It was agreed that taking the samples on Saturday would allow staff to be able to evaluate the sampling process without the added pressure of ensuring that the sampling was complete before students arrived at the building.
- DEQ Director Dan Wyant, Jim Sygo, George Krisztian, and Karen Tommasulo held a conference call with Dr. Susan Hedman, EPA's Regional Administrator, and other representatives from EPA to discuss the EPA's formation of the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to provide one-stop shopping for technical assistance for the optimization of corrosion controls for the switch from Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to the Karegnondi Water Authority. EPA requested a point of contact for the DEQ, and Director Wyant suggested Chief Deputy Director Jim Sygo. EPA agreed that this was an appropriate choice and requested a formal letter indicating Chief Deputy Director Sygo as the point of contact.
- DHHS has indicated that the total water filter/pitcher distribution for the period of October 6 through October 20 was 9,373 units.

Prepared by: George Krisztian, Flint Action Plan Coordinator
Laboratory Director
Department of Environmental Quality
Telephone: 517-284-6719
Cell: **PPI**
October 21, 2015

Shaler, Karen (DEQ)

From: Thelen, Mary Beth (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 5:40 PM
To: Krisztian, George (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Cc: Shaler, Karen (DEQ); Devereaux, Tracy Jo (DEQ)
Subject: FW: EPA Establishes Safe Drinking Water Task Force to Provide Expertise to MDEQ and City of Flint

FYI.

From: Josh Singer [<mailto:rioreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 12:18 PM
To: Olszewski, Rosemarie (DEQ)
Subject: EPA Establishes Safe Drinking Water Task Force to Provide Expertise to MDEQ and City of Flint

Contact Information: Anne Rowan, rowan.anne@epa.gov 312-353-9391

For Immediate Release No. 15-OPA160

EPA Establishes Safe Drinking Water Task Force to Provide Technical Expertise to MDEQ and City of Flint

Task Force providing technical assistance on reconnecting the Flint drinking water system to a new source

CHICAGO (October 16, 2015) - Today U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 Administrator Susan Hedman established the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force to provide the Agency's technical expertise through regular conversations with designated officials from Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the City of Flint. The Task Force will be led by the Region 5 Deputy Regional Administrator and will assist with developing and implementing a plan to secure water quality, including measures to optimize corrosion control. Task Force members will be available to consult with MDEQ and the City of Flint on site in Flint. The Task Force will also coordinate as necessary with federal, state and local public health agencies to assist with protection of public health.

Specifically, the Task Force will provide technical assistance to the MDEQ and the City of Flint to reconnect the Flint system to a new source of drinking water (to be supplied by the Great Lakes Water Authority) and to optimize corrosion control for the Flint system, starting in October 2015. The Task Force will also provide technical assistance to the MDEQ and the City of Flint, as needed, in advance of and following connection of the Flint water system to a new source of drinking water (to be supplied by the Karegnondi Water Authority) and to optimize corrosion control for the Flint system, starting in 2016.

"EPA is committed to working with our state and local partners to ensure a safe and reliable drinking water supply for the residents of Flint, Michigan," Hedman said. "The formation of this task force continues our commitment to providing technical assistance to the City of Flint and the State of Michigan."

The Task Force will be comprised of scientists and technical experts from the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago, the National Risk Management Research Lab in Cincinnati and the EPA drinking water program. In addition, EPA will ask the Governor to designate a MDEQ official and the Mayor of Flint to designate a city official to serve as points of contact for the Task Force.