
From: Murray, David (GOV)
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 1:25 PM
To: 'Natalia Golysheva'
Cc: Heaton, Anna (GOV)
Subject: RE: BBC World Service request for interview

Hello Natalia,

Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean water. Gov. Snyder and the administration have been working closely with the mayor and city leaders to focus on health issues affecting children and other city residents, and address water infrastructure challenges. We are committed to protecting the health of children in Flint now and into the future.

Once the state became aware of the problem, Gov. Snyder responded quickly with an action plan that focuses on increasing water testing, offering additional precautions for families with lead plumbing in their homes, and providing long-term solutions to address the city's water infrastructure challenges. The plan was created at Snyder's direction by the Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the city of Flint.

The plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems. You can find a link to a release about the action plan here:

http://www.michigan.gov/snyder/0,4668,7-277-57577_57657-366315--,00.html

The state also has offered more than \$10 million in grants and other financial assistance to cover part of the payment for the temporary switch to the Great Lakes Water Authority until Flint's new water source is ready to go online as well as efforts to improve existing city water infrastructure and purchase water filters for residents.

The governor also appointed a bipartisan task force charged with reviewing all of the city, state and federal government actions and recommending changes looking forward that can address potential challenges in Flint and other cities. The task force started working in late October, and members expected their work would last for about three months. Members already have made some recommendations, and the Governor has agreed to them. Information about the task force is here: http://www.michigan.gov/snyder/0,4668,7-277-57577_57657-367761--,00.html

There is a website with a considerable amount of information about the state's efforts to work with Flint's leaders and city residents here: www.michigan.gov/flintwater

I **strongly recommend** that you look at the most recent release from our Department of Health and Human Services, which focuses on the most recent testing data: http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_71692-371199--,00.html

For your background, the action plan includes:

- * Testing in Flint public schools immediately to ensure that drinking water is safe, with testing also available at no cost to any other school in Flint.
- * Offering free water testing to Flint residents to assure their drinking water is safe.
- * Providing free water filters to residents.
- * Expanding health exposure testing of individual homes.
- * Accelerating corrosion controls in the Flint drinking water system.
- * Accelerating water system improvements to address replacing lead service lines.
- * Expediting the completion of the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline.

- * Expanding a Safe Drinking Water Technical Advisory Committee to ensure the best technology, practices and science are being followed by adding an expert from the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development to the group.
- * Naming Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, as the Flint drinking water public health adviser.
- * Boosting a comprehensive lead education program to make sure residents have detailed information about how to protect themselves and their homes.

One thing we learned through this process is that there are no state or federal regulations requiring schools that are not on wells to test their water. The state has urged all districts conduct testing, and districts have been working with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Dave Murray

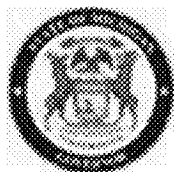
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From: Natalia Golysheva [<mailto:Natalia.Golysheva@bbc.co.uk>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 12:03 PM

To: Murray, David (GOV) <MurrayD1@michigan.gov>

Subject: RE: BBC World Service request for interview

Thank you

From: Murray, David (GOV) [<mailto:MurrayD1@michigan.gov>]

Sent: 23 December 2015 16:40

To: Natalia Golysheva

Subject: RE: BBC World Service request for interview

I'll have a written response to you in a couple hours.

Dave Murray

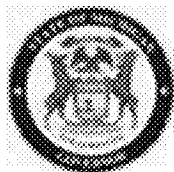
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From: Natalia Golysheva [<mailto:Natalia.Golysheva@bbc.co.uk>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 11:38 AM

To: Murray, David (GOV) <MurrayD1@michigan.gov>

Subject: RE: BBC World Service request for interview

Thanks for getting back to me Dave,

I am working towards tomorrow's programme and will need to hand over in a couple of hours to the overnight team.

We normally pre-record between 6 and 9 pm your time and go live on air from 10 pm your time. We could arrange either for a pre-rec or a live - your call. If you are talking about the written response, I would appreciate if you send it through in the next couple of hours.

Best wishes,
Natalia

From: Murray, David (GOV) [<mailto:MurrayD1@michigan.gov>]

Sent: 23 December 2015 16:34

To: Natalia Golysheva

Subject: RE: BBC World Service request for interview

Hello Natalia,

What is your deadline (U.S. Eastern time)

Thank you!

Dave Murray

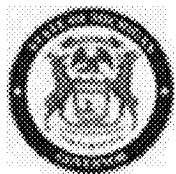
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From: Natalia Golysheva [<mailto:Natalia.Golysheva@bbc.co.uk>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 10:36 AM

To: Murray, David (GOV) <MurrayD1@michigan.gov>

Subject: BBC World Service request for interview

Importance: High

Hi Dave,

Thank you for your time on the phone.

As discussed, the BBC World Service has run a story yesterday on the Flint water crisis, where we spoke to the local paediatrician who has uncovered the pollution, and a local citizen who has suffered from it. Here is the link to the story <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03ctmmy>

It generated a strong interest and we have decided that it would be fair to give the State authorities the opportunity to respond.

I appreciate what you said about providing us with the written response, but as we are a radio programme, we would really appreciate speaking to a representative, ideally the governor himself. In the absence of a voice from your side, we will have to re-run part of yesterday's coverage to remind the audience of what happened, however we would much rather hear from your office to balance the coverage. I would appreciate if you let me know should that be an option. This won't take more than 5 – 10 minutes and could be done over the phone, ideally between 6 and 10 pm this evening EST.

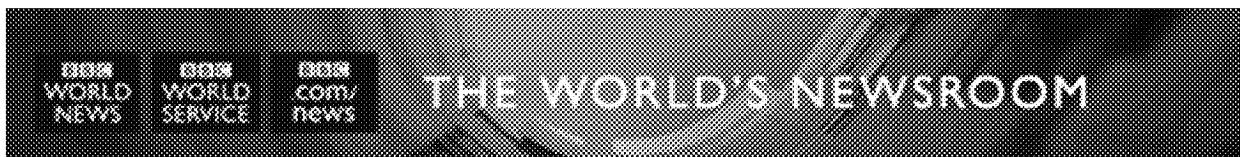
Please be assured that we are not after for an intense defence response or a blaming game. What we are looking for is an account of what happened from the governor's position – as many residents we've been speaking are very angry with the state authorities.

I don't have specific questions as much as a request to hear your take on the story – how did it happen that the residents were effectively poisoned? What is the governor's reaction to the discovery of evidence of ignoring the data about lead poisoning? http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/flint-michigan-water-lead_56784055e4b0b958f657595c Finally, many people are calling for governor to resign as a result of this scandal. How does he feel about what happened?

Let me know if you have any further questions.

Many thanks in advance,
Natalia

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