

From: [Poy, Thomas](#)
To: [Crooks, Jennifer](#); [Prysby, Mike \(DEQ\)](#)
Cc: [Benzie, Richard \(DEQ\)](#)
Subject: RE: Flint
Date: Thursday, May 29, 2014 3:57:51 PM

Hi Mike: Since Jennifer is out, I got to speak to Mr. Jefferson about Flint's water causing rashes. Jennifer showed me the Phase 2/5 test results from July 2013. Are there more recent results on the water currently served to the customers? Rashes can be caused by other changes in water chemistry due to the change in source waters but the first step would be to rule out regulated contaminants. Sorry, I'm sure you've already gone over this with Jennifer.

Thanks.

Tom

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

From: Crooks, Jennifer
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 3:03 PM
To: Prysby, Mike (DEQ)
Cc: Poy, Thomas
Subject: Flint

Thank you again, Mike, for talking to me about the Flint water issue. I really like your idea of encouraging the City to do some customer service with the citizens that are complaining about the water. Flushing their line and/or taking a sample at the citizen's house might go a long way to calming people down.

I was also thinking about you doing a chain of custody sample at the plant. I know you trust Brent the operator; but this could be another response to customer complaints to instill trust in the water department. It wouldn't have to be compliance sampling; a special purpose sample perhaps.

Something else I thought of—Ohio is having issues of blue-green algae/cyanotoxins in some of its surface waters, which are related to taste and odor, and can cause rashes; pretty nasty stuff. Don Moore said that the Flint River does have a lot of algae growing on it. See the email below, with some websites on the issue of cyanotoxins in drinking water

The person at Ohio EPA that has dealt with blue-green algae/cyanotoxins in drinking water is Heather Raymond. She might be a good resource to discuss whether it would be worth sampling and analyzing for cyanotoxins in the Flint finished water.

FYI, Don Moore said he was organizing a protest picket line in his neighborhood at the water treatment plant.

Jennifer

From: Drake, Wendy
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 2:39 PM
To: Crooks, Jennifer
Subject: HABs info

Hi, Jennifer.

Here are a few HABs websites. Both Ohio and Illinois have taken samples at systems and sources where problems have been reported, and I'm not sure about the other states.

U.S. EPA cyanobacterial HABs website: <http://www2.epa.gov/nutrient-policy-data/cyanobacterial-harmful-algal-blooms-cyanohabs>; Lesley D'Anglada from the EPA Office of Water's Office of Science and Technology also sends out HABs news updates that people can sign up for by contacting her (see forwarded e-mail below)

Ohio EPA's HABs—information for PWSs website: <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/HAB.aspx>; Ohio EPA has a PWS HAB response strategy (<http://epa.ohio.gov/Portals/28/documents/HABs/PWSHABResponseStrategy.pdf>) in which they list Heather Raymond as the PWS HAB Coordinator—her contact information is heather.raymond@epa.ohio.gov and (614) 644-2911. Ohio has experienced the most problems in our region.

Illinois EPA's HABs and algal toxins website: <http://epa.state.il.us/water/algal-bloom/index.html>; Illinois just launched this program last summer

IDEM's blue-green algae website: <http://www.in.gov/idem/algae/>

MDH's blue-green algal blooms and microcystin website:
<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/hazardous/topics/bluegreenalgae.html>

WDNR's blue-green algae website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/bluegreenalgae/?a=1>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Wendy

Wendy Drake | U.S. EPA, Region 5, Water Division, Ground Water and Drinking Water Branch
 77 West Jackson Boulevard, WG-15J | Chicago, IL 60604 | 312-886-6705 | drake.wendy@epa.gov

From: DAnglada, Lesley