

**Rennaker, Joanne (DEQ)**

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**From:** Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 10:52 AM  
**To:** Hyde, Tinka  
**Cc:** Poy, Thomas; Bair, Rita; Damato, Nicholas; Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Cook, Pat (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)  
**Subject:** RE: AGENDA for Today's Call on Flint

Thanks Tinka.

During discussion issue #1, we would like to discuss our (hopefully, mutual) understanding of the timeline for next steps.

Also, while we understand your concerns with the overall implementation of the lead and copper rule(s); we think it is appropriate for EPA to indicate in writing (an e-mail would be sufficient) your concurrence that the city is in compliance with the lead and copper rule as implemented in Michigan. This would help distinguish between our goals to address important public health issues separately from the compliance requirements of the actual rule which we believe have been and continue to be met in the city of Flint.

And finally, we would also like to discuss our concern that the draft report was released by EPA and that we (DEQ) obtained a copy of the report from an outside (ACLU) website.

Liane J. Shekter Smith, P.E., Chief  
 Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance  
 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
 517-284-6543

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**From:** Hyde, Tinka [<mailto:hyde.tinka@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 9:07 AM  
**To:** Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)  
**Cc:** Poy, Thomas; Bair, Rita; Damato, Nicholas  
**Subject:** AGENDA for Today's Call on Flint

Hi Liane – In preparation for our call today we've prepared an agenda (attached) with some background and discussion points. Please let me know if you have other items you wish to discuss. Thanks

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## Notes on Call with MDEQ on July 21, 2015

### MDEQ Implementation of LCR Rule and Flint Issues

#### Issue #1: Is there a public health concern regarding lead in Flint or other regulatory requirements?

- The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of monitoring was 11 ppb.
- The population has dropped to under 100,000 and therefore the 1<sup>st</sup> round of 6-month monitoring was done for 100 samples, but the 2<sup>nd</sup> round only needed 60 samples.
- Customer-requested samples were included, but MDEQ did not have specifics on how many there were.
- Tinka asked about the timeline for Flint to switch over to the Lake Huron water source. MDEQ said the pipeline is under construction and scheduled to be complete by July 2016. MDEQ expects some delays and thinks a more realistic timeframe is October 2016.
- MDEQ explained that Flint would have 18 months to complete the corrosion control study and the complicating factor of switching over to Lake Huron. Should the corrosion control study be based on the Lake Huron source? MDEQ also explained that once Flint is using Lake Huron water that they would then need to complete 2 more rounds of 6-month monitoring to assess whether any adjustments to the corrosion control treatment was needed.
- MDEQ will be sending a letter to Flint telling them they need to complete a corrosion control study – based on results they are not optimized. Given the timing of completing a corrosion control study and the anticipated switch to Lake Huron water, MDEQ will have discussions with Flint and request that they start corrosion control treatment as soon as possible.
- MDEQ asked for Region 5's opinion on whether the regulations allow for the study requirement for Flint to be waived if MDEQ has Flint start pH adjustments and adding phosphates. Region 5 will look into this and get back to MDEQ with an answer. All acknowledged that if Flint initiated corrosion control treatment and continued to evaluate the system to ensure optimization that these efforts would essentially equate to a corrosion control study.
- The Region raised its concern about looking at treatment more comprehensively to ensure problems with DBPs didn't occur. MDEQ stated that Flint is on the brink of DBP compliance and that bacteriological issues haven't occurred since last year. Any adjustments for corrosion control treatment would need to make sure the other issues weren't exacerbated.
- Region 5 again offered the assistance of ORD staff, Darren Lytle and Mike Schock which MDEQ said they had shared with Flint already.

#### Issue #2: Discuss optimal corrosion control requirements

##### Discussion Items:

- MDEQ explained that they did not treat the switch to Flint River water as a "new system", but as a new source. It is their understanding that 2 rounds of 6-month monitoring is still needed to characterize the water quality. They don't know what is optimized until those 2 rounds of 6-month monitoring are completed.