

Stanton, Terry A. (Treasury)

From: Stanton, Terry A. (Treasury)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 11:27 AM
To: Workman, Wayne (TREASURY)
Cc: Koryzno, Edward (Treasury)
Subject: FW: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water
Attachments: Flint Mayor Letter to Governor.pdf

Importance: High

Wayne & Ed...

FYI—see attached and below.

My counterpart at the Department of Environmental Quality, Brad Wurfel, called this morning, to ask if I might help connect he and DEQ Director Dan Wyant ahead of tonight's public meeting re: water. I have reached out to Jerry.

Apparently some DEQ staffers are going to be at the meeting and they fear that Walling and co. are going to beat the stuffing out of JA (and thus the State & Governor) over the handling of the water issue.

Wanted to be sure you were aware...

From: Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:50 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

Copy attached.

Stephen Busch, P.E.
Lansing and Jackson District Supervisor
Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
MDEQ
517-643-2314

From: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:41 AM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

First I heard about the letter was on NPR this morning.

From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:39 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)

Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

Ooops. Thanks.

Need a copy of the letter if we have it. Want to make sure the Governor's office knows to send calls about this to us, and give them a quick briefing on the situation.

Thanks.

b

From: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:37 AM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

That is the first option listed.

Changes made to date have reduced the formation of DBPs; but because of the way the standard is calculated the violation is anticipated to remain until at least late summer. However, it is difficult to predict whether the operational changes will be effective enough to address seasonal water quality changes that occur during the summer. It is possible to have a spike in August that could cause the city additional problems. But for now, all indications are that DBP levels in the distribution system are within an acceptable range.

From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:31 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

Would a third option be to make adjustments to the plant that address the current water supply effectively?

From: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

In light of the Mayor's letter, this could be quite uncomfortable for us tonight.

Our position has always been that we do not dictate which acceptable option(s) a water supply may choose. Our responsibility is to see that operations are managed properly, regulations are met, and safe water is delivered. For example, when Flint decided to leave Detroit and operate using the River, our role wasn't to tell them our opinion; only what steps would be necessary to make the switch.

Now that there is a violation of a drinking water standard, we have been treating Flint as we would any other supply. It is up to them to propose a solution/corrective action. Our role is to determine the reasonableness of that proposal. One option available to them is to continue to use the river until the KWA source is available as long as they implement operational changes to mitigate the formation of DBPs. Another acceptable option is to return to Detroit (GLWA) until the KWA source is available. And third option could certainly be returning to GLWA permanently.