

The Mayor is saying that since there is an EM, the state (Governor) has responsibility for decisions being made (not our position). It will be very important for DEQ staff to limit our discussion to our role under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Hopefully, the EM will be prepared to respond if and when the conversation veers off into this other arena.

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

From: Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 8:41 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Cc: Datema, Maggie (DEQ); Howes, Sarah (DEQ)
Subject: Flint Mayor request to Governor regarding Flint Water

FYI. Please see the link below. The mayor of Flint has requested the state provide assistance through a number of specific initiatives.

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/flint_mayor_asks_governor_for.html

As we are scheduled to participate in the meeting in Flint this evening please let me know if we need to further discuss these requests.

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

Stanton, Terry A. (Treasury)

From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 4:37 PM
To: Fonger, Ronald
Cc: Prysby, Mike (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Subject: RE: a question about flint

The water is still pre-treated. I think you mean when the water was coming from DWSD, and the city was just in the water transmission business instead of the water treatment business. I believe the answer is no, they didn't have many violations, but I'd encourage you to put the question to Mike Prysby, who will be at the meeting. Understand that dozens and dozens of 'boil water' advisories are issued by municipalities around the state every year for various reasons – anything from an abnormal coliform count to broken water mains that expose water to outside influence ... and the advisory is not by itself a warning that folks drinking the water will become ill. It's representative of a comprehensive, conservative protection standard with ample public notification measures to ensure that water customers can make informed decisions.

All of that said, the two guys most likely to know the answer to your specific question will be in the room tonight. And I've copied them here to make them aware you've got questions.

b

From: Fonger, Ronald [mailto:RFONGER1@mlive.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 4:08 PM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Subject: a question about flint

Brad:

One thing I'd like to know is whether Flint has ever been in violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act previously – at least as far back as your records go.

I'm guessing we didn't have too many when the water was pre-treated.

Thanks,

Ron Fonger
MLive Media Group
Reporter

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