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From: Widigan, Robert (TREASURY)
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 9:14 AM
To: Byrne, Randall (Treasury); Cline, Richard (Treasury); Vandegrift, Drew (TREASURY); Dostine, Patrick (TREASURY)
Subject: Independent Water Tests Show Lead Problems Far Worse Than Flint Claims

FYI – we may want to monitor this: <http://www.metrotimes.com/Blogs/archives/2015/09/01/independent-water-tests-show-lead-problems-far-worse-than-flint-claims>

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NEWS HITS

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

Independent water tests show lead problems far worse than Flint claims

Posted By Curt Guyette on Tue, Sep 1, 2015 at 5 13 pm



Photo courtesy Min Tang and Kelsey Pieper/Virginia Tech

Photo of Flint drinking water pipes showing different kinds of iron corrosion and rust

Claims by state and local officials that Flint's municipal water is safe to drink are being put to the test in a precedent-setting independent study.

So far, those claims are emphatically failing to pass muster.

Researchers from Virginia Tech — working with a group of Flint residents and the ACLU of Michigan — are conducting an extensive analysis of lead and copper levels in water flowing into the homes of Flint's residents.

Initial findings show the problem is roughly twice as bad as the city's tests indicate.

What's been dubbed the Flint Citizen Science Study is still under way, but the early findings have been so disturbing that the Virginia Tech team is posting results on the web in order to alert residents about how extensive the problem may be.

"I think it would have been unethical to not release this information right away," said VT professor Marc Edwards, who is leading the project.

According to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations, the city would be out of compliance if 10 percent of homes tested were above the action level of 15 parts per billion lead. The city says its latest sampling, conducted during the first six months of this year, shows that Flint's water is in compliance with federal regulations, according to documents obtained by the ACLU of Michigan.