



Mayor's Office

130 E. Sunset Way | P.O. Box 1307
Issaquah, WA 98027
(425) 837-3020
issaquahwa.gov

September 13, 2017

Bob Warren
Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
3190 160th Ave SE
Bellevue WA 98008-5452

Re: Remediating PFAS in Issaquah Water Supplies

Dear Bob:

Thank you for meeting with me and representatives from the City of Issaquah on July 21, 2017 to discuss the City's efforts to remove PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfate) from its drinking water supply. As we discussed, the City discovered PFOS in one of its supply wells in the Fall 2015. Since then, the City has spent considerable time, effort, and money investigating potential PFOS sources and treating City water.

The City is committed to providing safe drinking water to its citizens and is eager for the State of Washington to provide regulatory certainty on the issue of PFOS in water supplies. We look to Ecology to lead that effort and are encouraged that you and your team are doing so. We appreciated your providing us with an overview of Ecology's work on the following:

- Advising the State Legislature on its options for addressing contaminants of emerging concern, including PFOS;
- Partnering with the Washington Department of Health in preparing Washington's nascent Chemical Action Plan for Per- and Poly-Fluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS CAP); and
- Determining whether PFAS is a "hazardous substance" under Washington's Model Toxics Control Act ("MTCA").

The City is ready and willing to participate in each of Ecology's efforts. We are actively supporting the legislature's work on this issue. Emily Moon, the City's Deputy Manager and Jeff Kray, the City's outside environmental counsel have participated in legislative hearings about PFAS and other emerging contaminants. Greg Keith, the City's Water Operations Manager, is a member of the PFAS CAP Advisory Committee. The legislative and PFAS CAP tracks are, however, relatively gradual processes and will take months or years to complete. By contrast, MTCA provides an existing, effective process for investigating and remediating hazardous substances once they have been released to the environment.

The City is particularly interested in partnering with Ecology to accelerate steps to remove PFAS sources to Issaquah's groundwater supplies in the Lower Issaquah Valley Aquifer. The City is effectively treating its water supply to filter out PFAS below detection limits. Its goal is now to promptly identify and remove

or reduce sources of PFAS to the City's water supplies in the Lower Issaquah Valley Aquifer in order to shorten the time period for which the City must treat the water it serves its customers. The City views MTCA as the most expedient, direct pathway for accomplishing such source removal.

We look forward to further meeting with you and Ecology, and also with Eastside Fire & Rescue and Sammamish Plateau Water on October 16, 2017. During that next meeting we would like to hear whether Ecology has determined that PFAS is a hazardous substance under MTCA and, if so, what it has determined about an appropriate cleanup level for PFAS.

Sincerely,



Mayor Fred Butler

cc: Senator Lisa Wellman
Representative Joe Fitzgibbon
Doug Levy, Outcomes by Levy
Jeff Kray, Marten Law
Bob Harrison, City Administrator