

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Regional Director, Region 4

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www.dec.ny.gov

July 22, 2016

Honorable David B. Borge, Mayor
Municipal Building
24 Main Street
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

And

Supervisor Mark Surdam
Town Offices
New York State Armory
80 Church Street
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

Dear Mayor Borge and Supervisor Surdam:

As you know, on June 3, 2016 the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) entered into a Consent Order to hold Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corporation ("Saint-Gobain") and Honeywell International, Inc. ("Honeywell") accountable under the State Superfund program for the investigation and remediation of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) contamination in the Hoosick Falls area, including known impacts on drinking water.

As part of its ongoing investigation, DEC, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (DOH), has conducted several sampling events to better understand the sources, extent and potential impacts of the PFOA contamination in the Hoosick Falls area. I have attached this data and accompanying maps for your review.

Sampling Data

The State has taken and analyzed samples from private wells, the municipal water supply, the Hoosic River, the former Village of Hoosick Falls landfill, and soil and surface water in the vicinity of the Saint-Gobain plant and former Honeywell plant, among others. Preliminary data indicate that there are multiple sources contributing to PFOA contamination in the area. Potential sources include multiple current and former manufacturing sites in the Town of Hoosick and Village of Hoosick Falls including those operated by Saint-Gobain and Honeywell, the closed Village landfill, and suspected illegal disposal sites. This data informs the State's ongoing investigation as well as the companies' efforts to remediate the contamination.

The DEC sampling revealed elevated levels of PFOA at the closed municipal landfill. Based upon nearby private well and Hoosic River sampling results, the elevated PFOA levels at the landfill do not appear to be impacting either the Village public drinking water supply or private wells in the vicinity. DEC samples from the Hoosic River show relatively consistent low levels upstream of the Village, adjacent to the Saint-Gobain McCaffrey St. Site, and downstream of the wastewater treatment plant and the closed municipal landfill. Additionally, DEC conducted two

sampling events at the wastewater treatment plant, one prior to the Village temporary filtration system coming online and one following. PFOA levels decreased significantly over that time period.

Next Steps

The attached sampling results serve as the groundwork for a more intensive effort by the Responsible Parties—Saint-Gobain and Honeywell—to evaluate and characterize the potential sources of contamination. DEC has secured the commitment of both Saint-Gobain and Honeywell to commence work starting this week at all active and inactive plants for which they have secured access. No offsite work will be conducted until DEC has approved the companies' community participation work plans, so that your residents are both informed and consulted prior to offsite work.

DEC will continue to investigate both suspected illegal disposal sites and the closed municipal landfill. We thank your residents for working with DEC to identify illegal disposal sites through our tip line. In fact, one of these tips led to a DEC police investigation of an alleged illegal dumping site along Route 22. While the material was tested and does not relate to PFOA-related manufacturing waste, DEC will continue to investigate alleged disposal sites and will share data as it becomes available. DEC encourages residents to come forward with any information they have about alleged illegal disposal activities by contacting DEC at 518-402-9676.

Regardless of the source, DEC will ensure that all contamination is cleaned up in an expeditious manner. While DEC will continue to urge the responsible parties to pay for the clean-up, the State will step in and conduct the investigation and cleanup where the responsible parties fail to act and will use its full legal authority to recoup payment.

We will continue to make ourselves available to you and the members of the Town and Village to answer any questions you have regarding our ongoing efforts through the Superfund program to address the PFOA contamination in your community. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or need any additional information on this important remediation project. We will also be including this information on our soon to be launched website devoted to our efforts in the town and village and will notify you once this resource is finalized.

Sincerely,



Keith Goertz
Regional Director