



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



C. HEIDI GREETHER
DIRECTOR

August 1, 2016

VIA E-MAIL

The Honorable Karen Williams Weaver
Mayor of Flint
1101 South Saginaw Street
Flint, Michigan 48502

Dear Mayor Weaver:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the city of Flint's (City) results for the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) monitoring period conducted from January 1, 2016, through June 30, 2016.

The LCR requires that the 90th percentile calculation for samples that meet the Tier 1 requirements during a monitoring period be at or below the Action Level (AL) of 15 parts per billion (ppb) for lead and 1.3 parts per million (ppm) for copper. Based on the data obtained through the residential and sentinel testing from Tier 1 sites, the 90th percentile value was 20 ppb for lead and 0.17 ppm for copper.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) would like to acknowledge the extraordinary measures that have taken place, not only with respect to sampling but also regarding the notification of results and the corresponding education associated with those results to the residents of Flint. In addition, we appreciate the proactive measures that the City is taking with respect to lead service line replacement. The City has been a valued partner in these efforts, and the MDEQ looks forward to our continued partnership in responding to these issues. However, there are additional public education and notification efforts that will be required of the City. The MDEQ is willing to assist the City in the review and implementation of these requirements. Due to the unique circumstances in Flint, the MDEQ has requested clarification from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on some issues relative to education, public notification, and lead service line replacement. These clarifications from our partners at the EPA will allow us to quickly put together the path forward. Once the MDEQ receives clarification from the EPA, we will contact the City regarding any necessary requirements. In the interim, we strongly urge the City to continue to place a priority on this effort.

The results for the 90th percentile calculation for lead were not unexpected. However, there is reason to be optimistic. All recent data show an encouraging trend of improvement. Each of the last three rounds of the extended sentinel program have

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90th percentile values that meet the 15 ppb AL criteria. A noticeable improvement occurred after the "Flush for Flint" campaign in May, and the numbers have held steady since. This is especially impressive given that lead levels in water tend to go up in the summer due to the increase in temperature.

The MDEQ continues to be a full partner working collaboratively with the City to ensure a safe drinking water system for the people of Flint. Please feel free to contact Mr. Bryce Feighner, Chief, Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance, or Mr. George Krisztian, Flint Action Plan Coordinator, if you or any of your staff have technical questions regarding this letter or any other issues pertaining to the LCR.

Sincerely,



C. Heidi Grether
Director
517-284-6700

cc: Mr. Robert Kaplan, Acting Regional Administrator, EPA, Region 5
Brigadier General Mike McDaniel (Ret.), City of Flint
Mr. Sylvester Jones, City of Flint
Ms. JoLisa McDay, City of Flint
Mr. Richard Baird, Governor's Office
Mr. Jim Sygo, Chief Deputy Director, MDEQ
Mr. Bryce Feighner, MDEQ
Mr. George Krisztian, MDEQ