

March 30, 2020

Dear Neighbor,

We hope you are staying safe and healthy in these confusing and worrisome days.

As you may have seen, last week we submitted a detailed work plan to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to sample private drinking water within 1,200 feet of 61 fields. WDNR selected these fields and the testing area around them. These are fields where biosolids were applied by the City of Marinette and, in some cases, the City of Peshtigo. Tyco is conducting this work in cooperation with the WDNR.

The sampling began on March 2 and was scheduled to be completed this week. Due to public health concerns related to the COVID-19 outbreak, we have temporarily suspended further testing until April 13. Landowners whose wells have been tested will receive the results when they are finalized. The remaining wells will be tested when it's prudent to resume, and all results will be shared with WDNR.

Last week, we also sent WDNR the results of an extensive evaluation that our environmental consultant, Arcadis, performed on the groundwater in the area south of the current boundaries of the site investigation area, known as the "Southern Area."

PFAS mixtures are very different depending on the source. The PFAS found in the area we studied have very different characteristics from the PFAS associated with our Fire Technology Center (FTC). We also studied the geological makeup of the area, in particular how the groundwater and surface water flows from one location to another.

Based on this scientific assessment, it is clear that the FTC is not the source of the PFAS in this area. The PFAS mixture in this area is different from the PFAS in our firefighting foam, and the compounds could not have traveled from our facility to the area south of the already defined southern boundary.

It is unclear where the PFAS is coming from. What we know is that water from two of the five sewer lines leading into the Marinette Wastewater Treatment Plant – lines that do not connect to the FTC – had PFAS. We also know that PFAS has been used in a variety of industries around the globe since the 1950s and can be found in many common consumer products, such as food packages and wrappers, stain- and water-repellent fabrics and clothing, nonstick products, polishes, waxes, paints, and cleaners. We have been in discussion with WDNR about this information and are encouraging them to begin the process of working to identify the source of this newly identified PFAS.

We had hoped to discuss in this letter a new round of community meetings to follow up on the conversations we held in February. The coronavirus outbreak has delayed this announcement, but we are hopeful we will be able to announce new meetings in April.

As always, if you have additional questions or feedback to share, you can reach us at (800) 314-1381 or (715) 582-7100.

Thank you,



Jim Cox
Sr. Manager, Marketing Communications