

March 18, 2021

Dear Neighbor,

Now is the Time to Make the Water Line a Reality: *All parties must come together and act.*

Governor Tony Evers has said that clean water is his top environmental priority, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) declares its mission is “To work with people to understand each other’s views and to carry out the public will.” Now is the time to put these two commitments together to make the promise of permanent clean water for our Town of Peshtigo neighbors a reality. DNR Secretary Preston Cole’s leadership at this important moment will be a terrific demonstration of the Governor’s commitment and the agency’s important charge.

We know Peshtigo residents want a clean drinking water solution now. And Tyco agrees! Action to deliver a permanent source of clean water can and should happen *right now*.

Cleaning up groundwater and soil is a significant part of the overall PFAS solution that Tyco has taken responsibility for, and real progress is being made. Tyco has now submitted action plans to the DNR to capture and treat 95% of the PFAS that has come from work at our Fire Training Center (FTC). After 3 years of thorough study and based on over 10,000 data points, we know the PFAS has traveled via groundwater primarily heading east to Ditch B. Removing PFAS from the environment takes time, but our proposed soil cleanup and groundwater extraction and treatment system will go to the source to clean it up.

Now is the time to accelerate action on the remaining 5% of the PFAS from our FTC that is dispersed in groundwater in parts of the City of Marinette and the Town of Peshtigo, and which has adversely impacted the drinking water wells of 175 properties in the Town of Peshtigo. A municipal water line has been identified as the best solution to give our neighbors a permanent source of clean drinking water and relieve them of the burden of the bottled water or in-home treatment systems that Tyco has provided for over 2 years.

In March 2019, Tyco announced a commitment to design and build a water line at our expense. We hired engineers and conducted a thorough review of all the clean water options that might be available, including the pros and cons of each, and shared it with the community. A full report was submitted to the DNR, and Tyco then revised the plan to respond to DNR’s comments. This work is all public on the DNR website. Importantly, in a July 2019 letter to Tyco the DNR agreed with our conclusion, stating “It is the DNR’s position that a public (municipal) water source offers the best regulated, safest, and most reliable drinking water to all consumers, current and future.”

Tyco went still further. We understand that a project like this involves complex legal and engineering considerations. So, we provided the City and Town with over \$200,000 to date that they have put to work to assess those issues. The engineering firms hired by the municipalities have done their work and the report of the advisor to the Town (Cedar Corp.) concluded, as Tyco’s engineers did, that deeper wells are possible, but a water line is the best option.

With all of this good work done, how can we make more progress and faster?

Now is the time for all the parties to come together and act to avoid delays. To make this happen, we have asked DNR Secretary Preston Cole - true to the Governor's stated priority and the agency's Mission Statement - to convene and lead a process among parties including Tyco, the City of Marinette, the Town of Peshtigo, the Public Service Commission, and others to hammer out a plan. Tyco will come to the table ready to discuss all relevant costs associated with a waterline including operations, maintenance, and water bills. And we have already committed to fully funding the construction of the agreed-upon plan.

If the DNR can step up and step in now - bringing us all together with firm purpose and deadlines - permanent clean water can be a reality, not just a promise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "K".

Katie McGinty, Chief Sustainability Officer
Johnson Controls