



State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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JEFFREY A. MEYERS
COMMISSIONER

September 22, 2016

Nancy Harrington
Chairman
Merrimack Town Council
Town of Merrimack
6 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chairman Harrington:

I am writing to confirm that the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has received the Merrimack Town Council's request that DHHS conduct a random blood sampling of Merrimack Village District (MVD) customers.

I am pleased to inform the Merrimack Town Council that DHHS has finalized a blood testing program to assess perfluorochemical (PFC) exposure to residents served by the Merrimack Village District (MVD) public water system.

DHHS began developing a program to randomly sample MVD customers since it was first proposed by Merrimack Town Council Member William Boyd during a meeting convened by Governor Maggie Hasson in April 2016. DHHS, at the request of the Merrimack Town Council and in coordination with the Governor's office, will conduct a limited community exposure assessment by testing blood (serum) of randomly selected households in the MVD public water system.

DHHS is conducting the MVD PFC Community Exposure Assessment to inform residents, State and local officials, and MVD about PFC exposure in MVD customers. Based on currently available data, MVD water supply wells are monitored for PFCs, and concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in the tap water are expected to be below the Environmental Protection Agency's Lifetime Health Advisory Level of 70 parts per trillion. It is the Department's goal that the MVD Community Exposure Assessment will provide residents with information about approximate levels of PFC exposure in the community, which could partly be associated with drinking water exposure.

Attached to this letter is the final protocol for the MVD PFC Community Exposure Assessment, which outlines the sampling program and describes the random sampling process. DHHS will begin sending letters of invitation to randomly selected MVD customers the week of October 3, 2016, to inform them about the process to participate in the random blood sampling program. DHHS will continue to send letters of invitation to MVD customers until 200 individuals are enrolled in the community exposure assessment.

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Once the Merrimack Town Council has received and reviewed the attached document, DHHS representatives would be pleased to present the MVD PFC Community Exposure Assessment during a Town Council meeting.

Sincerely,



Jake Leon
Director of Communications