

Highlights of Marc Edwards FOIA:
City of FLINT E-mails to/from/cc/blind cc EPA and MDEQ
Chronology and Red Highlights Provided by Marc Edwards

From: Curt Guyette <cguyette@aclumich.org>
Date: Tue, Jun 30, 2015 at 1:39 PM
Subject: Water treatment

To: Jason Lorenz <jlorenz@cityofflint.com>

Jason, I have interviewed Miguel Del Toral, regulations manager for ground and drinking water for the EPA's region 5.

He said there are a number of concerns regarding Flint.

Among other things, he said:

A major concern from a public health standpoint is the absence of corrosion control treatment in the City of Flint for mitigating lead and copper levels in the drinking water.

Recent drinking water samples indicate the presence of high lead results in the drinking water.

In addition to the lack of corrosion control, the ferric chloride being added to help address the TTHM problem can accelerate pipe corrosion, exacerbating the problem.

He also said that the city's testing procedures – instructing residents to “pre-flush” their lines before taking water samples to be tested, can lead to deceptively low results that could give Flint residents a false sense of security regarding actual lead levels in their water.

Obviously, this is a very urgent issue. I am interested to talk with someone from the city about what Mr. Del Toral had to say. Can you set up a phone interview with someone for me to talk with tomorrow? I can make myself available whenever is convenient for you.

If you need to talk with me beforehand, you can reach me on my cell phone at [REDACTED]

Thanks for any help you can provide.

Curt Guyette

Jason Lorenz <jlorenz@cityofflint.com>

Date: Tue, Jun 30, 2015 at 1:49 PM

Subject: Fwd: Water treatment

To: Natasha Henderson <nhenderson@cityofflint.com>, Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>, Howard Croft <hcroft@cityofflint.com>, Michael Glasgow <mglasgow@cityofflint.com>, Peter Bade <pbade@cityofflint.com>

FYI

Curt

Guyette, the reporter working for the Michigan ACLU wants to talk to someone from the City regarding the information below. It is worth noting that this is one of the coproducers of the *Hard to Swallow* Youtube video from last week, which somewhat discredits his objectivity.

Best,

Jason

Lorenz

Public Information Officer

City of Flint

(810) 2372039

jlorenz@cityofflint.com

Date: Tue, Jun 30, 2015 at 9:36 PM

Subject: Comments on Flint Water

To: "Hedman, Susan" <Hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Cc: "Kelley, Jeff" <Kelley.Jeff@epa.gov>

Dr. Hedman,

Please take a look at the communication I received from the City of Flint Public Information Officer about comments that may have been made about Flint Water from an EPA region 5 staff.

It would be helpful for me to have the same information that was shared with the ACLU representative if indeed this is what took place. I will also be following up with the City of Flint DPW Director Howard Croft to see if he has received this information already or not.

We certainly want to work to address any concerns that have arisen as the City's water treatment, distribution system, and testing processes have been examined.

Thank you in advance for any assistance and information you can provide.

All the best,

Dayne

Dayne

Walling

Mayor, City of Flint

City Hall, 1101 S. Saginaw St.

Flint, MI 48502

8107667346

mayor@cityofflint.com

From: Hedman, Susan <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 1, 2015 at 10:44 AM

Subject: Re: Comments on Flint Water

To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

We are looking into this and I will get back to you later today when I know more about what happened.

Sent from my iPhone

Hedman, Susan <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 1, 2015 at 6:46 PM

Subject: Re: Comments on Flint Water

To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Mayor Walling I apologize for the delay in getting back to you but it has taken a while for me to find out what happened. So far, I have learned that Region 5 staff received a complaint from a Flint resident about lead levels in drinking water and that we followed up by doing some tests to determine whether lead levels were indeed high for this particular household and, if so, to try to identify the source(s) of the problem. The EPA staffer mentioned in your email **prepared a draft report and apparently shared it with the citizen as a courtesy because her name and children's blood lead levels were mentioned in the report before sending the draft report up the EPA management chain for review**. He subsequently received a call from the ACLU representative Curt Guyette who said he obtained a copy of the draft report from the resident and then proceeded to ask questions, which the EPA staffer attempted to answer.

The preliminary draft report should not have been released outside the agency. When the report has been revised and fully vetted by EPA management, the findings and recommendations will be shared with the City and MDEQ and MDEQ will be responsible for following up with the City.

In the meantime, if you think it would helpful, I can recommend two EPA experts on lead and drinking water distribution systems to work with the Flint Advisory Committee to complement Dr. Wright's TTHM expertise. If you are interested, I can provide their bios tomorrow. **Again I apologize for taking all day to get back to you and for the manner in which this matter was handled.**

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Best regards,
Susan

Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 2, 2015 at 2:26 PM

Subject: Re: Comments on Flint Water

To: "Hedman, Susan" <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

This is very helpful Susan, thank you. Let me discuss where we are at on our end and get back with you. **I do know that we are on the same page as far as the City being prepared to respond to any followups that come through the MDEQ as that was the understanding of our team too.** Thanks again, Dayne

From: Dayne Walling [mailto:dwalling@cityofflint.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 1:37 PM

To: Hedman, Susan

Subject: Re: Comments on Flint Water

And, it would be helpful if this same information could be shared with the ACLU, at least the aspects of determinations still needing to be made and the City being in the right by following the guidance through the MDEQ

Hedman, Susan <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Date: Thu, Jul 2, 2015 at 7:14 PM

Subject: RE: Comments on Flint Water

To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

At this point, I am not inclined for my staff to have any further communications with the ACLU representative-- we need to focus on finalizing the report. In the meantime, however, I have no objection to the City letting him know that the report he was given was a preliminary draft and that it would be premature to draw any conclusions based on that draft.

Also, if you decide that you would like additional expertise in the area of treatment and corrosion control to address lead contamination – we can deploy resources from the EPA lab in Cincinnati. The resumes of two experts in this area are attached – and we can make the necessary connections if you think you would like to add to your Advisory Committee.

I hope you have a Happy Fourth of July!

From: **Curt Guyette** <cguyette@aclumich.org>

Date: Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 10:29 AM

Subject: One more water question

To: Jason Lorenz <jlorenz@cityofflint.com>

Good morning Jason. Hope you had a good time off.

Miguel Del toral, a water specialist with the US EPA's region five is sounding the alarm about the potential of a significant problem regarding lead in the Flint water system. He says that the EPA has offered to help by having its experts assist the city, but so far that assistance has been declined.

I was checking in to see what the city's take on Del Toral's assertion is.

If you don't mind, could you let me know you have received this message. I'm handing my story back in at the end of the day today.

Thanks again.

Curt

From: **Jason Lorenz** <jlorenz@cityofflint.com>

Date: Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 11:51 AM

Subject: Fwd: One more water question

To: Howard Croft <hcroft@cityofflint.com>, Michael Glasgow <mglasgow@cityofflint.com>, Natasha Henderson <nhenderson@cityofflint.com>, Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

More from Mr. Guyette. This time he asserting that Del Toral from the EPA is "sounding the alarm" about lead in Flint's water system.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Date: Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 12:11 PM
Subject: Fwd: One more water question
To: "Hedman, Susan" <Hedman.susan@epa.gov>

When this ACLU story is released I am going to need your help in clarifying the EPA's position. This is the latest we have from the ACLU...

From: **Hedman, Susan** <hedman.susan@epa.gov>
Date: Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 4:54 PM
Subject: Re: One more water question
To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Did the City point out that EPA is still working to determine the extent to which there is a problem?

Sent from my iPhone

From: Darrell Dawsey [<mailto:ddawsey@aclumich.org>]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2015 2:00 PM
To: Clark Hughes
Subject: ACLU of Michigan Report: Flint Family Pays Heavy Price for City's Water Woes

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 9, 2015

CONTACT: Darrell Dawsey, ACLU of Michigan, 313-578-6831; ddawsey@aclumich.org

DETROIT—Describing the toxicity of one Flint household's tap water as "hazardous-waste levels," alarmed water-quality experts warned in a new ACLU of Michigan report that Flint officials are using a "loophole" in water testing guidelines that skews test results, exacerbates water woes in the city and could create a "false sense of security" about the Flint water supply.

"It is both outrageous and heartbreaking to think that families with small children have been allowed to drink, bathe and cook with water so thoroughly polluted by lead," said ACLU of Michigan executive director Kary

Moss. "It's even worse to have to worry that city officials may not only be avoiding the truth about the lead levels, but may be making the problem worse. The people of Flint deserve to know whether their water is hazardous."

Interviewed as part of "Corrosive Impact," an explosive new ACLU report that focuses on one Flint family's ordeal with lead-contaminated water, university researcher Marc Edwards and EPA manager Miguel Del Toral both expressed grave concern about the city's water supply and testing measures after Edwards' independent analysis of the family's tap water revealed lead levels that were more than five times higher than what city tests showed. The report, focused on the Walters family in Flint, was compiled by ACLU of Michigan investigative reporter Curt Guyette.

"I have never in my 25-year career seen such outrageously high levels going into another home in the United States," said Edwards. "This was literally hazardous-waste levels."

Flint has come under increasing scrutiny for its poor water quality ever since an emergency manager severed the city's ties to the Detroit water system in 2014 and ordered the city to begin pumping its water from the Flint River.

The report draws heavily from an internal U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memo that asserts that the city is exacerbating the public health threat of lead-laced water while at the same time conducting tests that minimize the dangers posed to other residents throughout the city. Of greatest concern is the city's practice of having residents "pre-flush" their home plumbing systems before city officials test the water.

"The practice of pre-flushing before collecting compliance samples has been shown to result in the minimization of lead capture and significant underestimation of lead levels in the drinking water," the memo states.

The memo also says the city discontinued corrosion control treatments for lead and copper, materials found in many of the pipes in the city's aging water and sewerage infrastructure: "A major concern from a public health standpoint is the absence of corrosion control treatment in the City of Flint for mitigating lead and copper levels in the drinking water."

Del Toral, who was interviewed for the article as a private citizen, not as an EPA official, underscored the need for the city officials to respond the problem immediately.

"I don't want to scare people unnecessarily," said Del Toral. "But there is absolutely a problem in Flint that needs to be addressed right away."

KEY NEWS & DOCUMENTS

[Read the ACLU of Michigan's Flint water story](#)

[Watch "Corrosive Impact," about one family's struggle with water contamination](#)

[Read the EPA memo](#)

Flint's mayor drinks water from tap to prove it's safe

Posted: Jul 09, 2015 12:18 PM EDT Updated: Jul 09, 2015 1:05 PM EDT

By WNEM Newsroom

Read more: <http://www.wnem.com/story/29511581/flints-mayor-drinks-water-from-tap#ixzz3oUM1z6BG>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Date: Fri, Jul 10, 2015 at 9:36 AM

Subject: Fwd: FW: ACLU of Michigan Report: Flint Family Pays Heavy Price for City's Water Woes

To: "Hedman, Susan" <Hedman.susan@epa.gov>

keeping you in the loop as I expect our local media will be calling around for comments
press release and document links near the bottom
thanks, Dayne

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hedman, Susan** <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Date: Fri, Jul 10, 2015 at 5:44 PM

Subject: Re: ACLU of Michigan Report: Flint Family Pays Heavy Price for City's Water Woes

To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Mayor Walling --

We released the following statement this afternoon in response to press inquiries:

EPA continues to work closely with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the City of Flint to ensure that Flint residents are provided with safe drinking water. EPA conducted limited drinking water sampling for lead in Flint in response to a citizen complaint. The initial results and staff recommendations to management were documented in an internal memorandum, which was cited in the ACLU article. EPA will work with Michigan DEQ and the City of Flint to verify and assess the extent of lead contamination issues and to ensure that Flint's drinking water meets federal standards.

Flint residents who are concerned about lead in their drinking should contact the utility and may request that their water be sampled. Additional information about lead in drinking water is available at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation/lead.cfm>.

Sent from my iPhone

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 13, 2015 at 10:42 AM

Subject: Re: ACLU of Michigan Report: Flint Family Pays Heavy Price for City's Water Woes

To: "Hedman, Susan" <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Thanks Susan, I appreciate the comment.

Dayne

[Leaked internal memo shows federal regulator's concerns about lead in Flint's water](#)

By [LINDSEY SMITH](#) · JUL 13, 2015

EPA continues to work closely with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the City of Flint to ensure that Flint residents are provided with safe drinking water. EPA conducted limited drinking water sampling for lead in Flint in

response to a citizen complaint. The initial results and staff recommendations to management were documented in an internal memorandum, which was cited in the ACLU article. EPA will work with Michigan DEQ and the City of Flint to verify and assess the extent of lead contamination issues and to ensure that Flint's drinking water meets federal standards.

Flint residents who are concerned about lead in their drinking should contact the utility and may request that their water be sampled. Additional information about lead in drinking water is available at

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation/lead.cfm>.

From: Marc Edwards [<mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu>]

Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2015 4:57 PM

To: 'ROSENTHALA@michigan.gov'; 'bwright@cityofflint.com'; 'Ptaszenski, Rachel'

Subject: Flint Water Study-VT

Dear Adam, Mike and Rachel,

Hi there. I am a professor at Virginia Tech who specializes in research on corrosion, opportunistic premise plumbing pathogens, lead in water health effects and engineering ethics.

Over the next few months we will be studying Flint water quality issues, in conjunction with all parties who are interested in this subject.

We will be launching our web page to publicly report results of our work.

We visited Flint last week and collected a lot of samples from the distribution system, and we are also doing a lead in water study with residents, to complement that which was recently conducted by the city under the LCR.

Just giving you a heads up on this, and I hope you can give me a point of contact with each of your agencies.

Dependent on what we find, it might be desirable to touch base, in advance of our releasing certain findings.

We also intend to collaborate with all parties, in an open manner, to the extent that is possible, as our study progresses.

Mike, I think I met you a few years back at a Michigan AWWA event, and Rachel, you were kind enough to send me the coliform/E.Coli data last week. Adam, I am not sure if I have ever met you or not. My cell phone is 540 320 8740, my office phone is 540 231-7236, and my e-mail is on this message. Feel free to call me at any time, if any of you should have any questions about our plans, or the Flint water quality issues that we will be studying.

Best Regards,
Marc Edwards

On Mon, Sep 21, 2015 at 4:54 PM, Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov> wrote:
Flint Journal asked us to comment on Kildee's statement. FYI:
"The state much appreciated the opportunity to explain its role in regulating drinking water systems – in particular, the fact that the water supply presently meets all state and federal water quality standards but that homes with lead service connections and lead plumbing are and always have been imparting some part per billion of lead, which is a concern.
"We were pleased to conclude the meeting with the shared commitment to bring a local, state and federal partnership to address this issue through the City's technical advisory team. Given issues like the proposed federal grant forgiveness or the call for systemwide replacement of home lead connections to address the longterm issue, the leadership of our congressional delegation will be of critical importance."

From: Dayne Walling [mailto:dwalling@cityofflint.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 4:18 PM
To: edwardsm@vt.edu
Subject: Flint water

Dear Dr. Edwards, I am interested in learning more about your research and concerns regarding Flint water. I would also like to meet with you when you make the trip to Flint. I left a message on your office phone as well. Please give me a call on my cell at [REDACTED] or email back. I look forward to talking with you.

On Tue, Sep 8, 2015 at 7:09 PM, Marc Edwards <edwardsm@vt.edu> wrote:

Hello Dayne,

I would be happy to discuss our results with anyone.

I think that Mr. Sid Roy (leader of FlintWaterStudy) and I have some time in between the press conference and town hall meeting, when you can meet with myself and the rest of the team that did the Flint water study.

Mr Walling, I read somewhere today, that you were not supportive of Mr. Miguel Del Toral's work on lead in Flint. I have to tell you, that I think this is a mistake.

Had MDEQ studied the scientific validity of the points Mr. Del Toral was making months ago, and acted on that information, Flint residents would have been informed about the high lead in water risk at that time. Months of harmful exposures to this neurotoxin could have been avoided. Instead, MDEQ openly attempted to discredit and smear Mr. Del Toral to Flint residents- the residents told me this directly.

Frankly, I feel that MDEQ's action in this regard, is not consistent with its mission of upholding the public welfare. In large part because it was clear that MDEQ was behaving in an unscientific and regretful manner in relation to Mr. Del Toral's work, a 16 person team at Virginia Tech decided to launch the Flint water study, to take an unbiased look at this urgent public health issue on behalf of Flint consumers.

I am telling you this, because I will not be associated with anyone who is involved, directly or indirectly, in discrediting Mr. Del Toral.

Nonetheless, I will share information about our work with anybody who is interested, and would be happy to discuss the ongoing collaboration between VT and Flint Citizen scientists.

Best Regards,

Marc

Walling said his opponent "is just now learning about the serious challenges Flint faces," and **said he's already contacted the U.S. EPA, including Regional Administrator Susan Hedman, asking for federal assistance.**

Citing a June 24 letter from an EPA manager as evidence, Weaver said Flint's testing for lead may not be producing accurate results.

The same letter says the city is "no longer providing corrosion-control treatment for lead and copper," a "serious concern for residents that live in homes with lead service lines or partial-lead service lines, which are common throughout the city of Flint."

Walling said Weaver is making a mistake by citing a letter from "one individual staff person" who does not speak for U.S. EPA.

"It's dangerous for a candidate to make allegations that are not based on fact," Walling said.

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/flint_mayoral_challenger_calls.html

From: Dayne Walling [<mailto:dwalling@cityofflint.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 6:35 AM
To: Marc Edwards
Subject: Re: Flint water

Thanks for the reply Marc. If you could give me an idea of the open time then I will hold that on my calendar. I would value the chance to talk more with you.

As for Mr. Del Toral's work, when I learned of the memo he had written about Flint water I contacted Dr. Susan Hedman at the EPA. She was the designated point person for me when I inquired with the White House about federal assistance. Dr. Hedman shared with me that the memo was under review and that any guidance for the City of Flint would come through the MDEQ and clarified that Mr. Del Toral's memo was for internal purposes. I didn't take this as discrediting anyone but instead as part of the customary organizational process.

I know you have worked on these issues in other communities and there can be a great deal of variation across state departments, regional federal offices, etc. I want to learn from your experience so I can consider all of the information that is available.

So let me know about the time and take care.
Dayne

Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 8:37 AM
To: 'Dayne Walling'
Subject: RE: Flint water

Hi Dayne,

I understand how you could have been misled.

All I can tell you, is that from a scientific and engineering perspective, everything in Mr. Del Toral's memo was 100% accurate.

I verified many of the facts personally myself. The rest is perfectly obvious to someone with any reasonable training and experience in the field.

I am sorry that MDEQ did not take his memo seriously, and that they did not cause the City of Flint to consider corrosion control from the start of this process.

It was their job to do so. I have no idea what MDEQ's agenda is, but based on their press releases and actions to date, protecting the public and following Federal laws, does not seem to be a priority. In such situations, listening to "the customary organizational process" can harm the public, and that is what is happening here.

If you want to protect consumers in your city, you should start listening directly to Mr. Del Toral, or if he is somehow politically unacceptable to MDEQ because he has now been proven to be both honest and correct, find some other credible scientists somewhere at EPA and seek out their independent opinion.

We will get our schedule straight in the next few days and send that to you.

If you should ever want to discuss things directly by phone, I would be more than happy to speak to you any evening. My day schedule is pretty tight between now the visit to Flint.

My cell phone is 540 320 8740.

Best Regards,

Marc

From: **Ronald Fonger** <RFONGER1@mlive.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2015 at 1:22 PM
Subject: request for comment
To: "jlorenz@cityofflint.com" <jlorenz@cityofflint.com>, "Natasha Henderson (nhenderson@cityofflint.com)" <nhenderson@cityofflint.com>, "Dayne Walling (dwalling@cityofflint.com)" <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

I am working on a story that focuses on the June 24 memorandum written by Miguel A. Del Toral, regulations manager in U.S. EPA's ground water and drinking water branch.

Although I'm sure you are aware of it, I've attached a copy.

Who would be available to discuss the content of this memorandum?

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2015 at 1:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: request for comment
To: "Hedman, Susan" <Hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Susan, I am writing to ask for your assistance again. It may have been brought to your attention that a Virginia Tech research team has tested Flint water samples and found a number with higher lead. This is leading local media and citizens back to the Del Toral memo. It would be very helpful for the EPA to provide a statement including the high level of engagement and cooperation the City has exhibited. I have every intention of the City complying with all EPA and DEQ requirements and I look forward to hearing from you.
Thanks for the consideration.
Dayne

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2015 at 3:45 PM
Subject: Fwd: request for comment
To: "Kelley, Jeff" <Kelley.Jeff@epa.gov>

keeping you in the loop as we did initially...

From: Hedman, Susan <hedman.susan@epa.gov>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2015 at 10:41 PM
Subject: Re: request for comment
To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Cc: "Kelley, Jeff" <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>

Mayor Walling --

I understand that we received a media inquiry on this topic today -- and we plan to respond to the reporter by making clear that the City of Flint is implementing EPA's recommendations. We will also point out that the Virginia Tech team's suggestion to flush pipes before drawing drinking water is consistent with the advice that EPA has dispensed to residential consumers in communities across the country.

Best regards,

Susan

From: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 10, 2015 at 7:16 AM
Subject: Re: request for comment
To: "Hedman, Susan" <hedman.susan@epa.gov>
Cc: "Kelley, Jeff" <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>

Excellent, thank you. We will also be pointing concerned residents to the EPA families lead protection information online and we will print out hard copies to have available at City Hall with the additional information that the City is offering free and independent testing to households.

[Feds sending in experts to help Flint keep lead out of water](#)

FLINT, MI -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says it will send help to the city as it develops plans for controlling **corrosion in treated Flint River water**, a key to keeping lead from leaching into homes and businesses.

The EPA said that while city water is within allowable levels for lead, it has "recommended that Flint implement **corrosion control treatment** as soon as possible since the city's lead service lines can leach lead into the drinking water if left untreated."

The statement was issued to The Flint Journal-MLive Wednesday, Sept. 9, one day after researchers from Virginia Tech University advised Flint residents not to drink or cook with tap water here without flushing lines before each use or using a filter to remove lead.

Virginia Tech students and faculty have posted the results of 252 water tests from Flint online, concluding the city has "a very serious lead in water problem."

On Sep 14, 2015, at 9:08 PM, Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com> wrote:

Susan, thank you for the continued support. I hope you saw the letter to Governor Snyder expressing my request for additional state funding. We have a good plan and a strong team and now we need the resources.

I also wanted to see if you could help arrange for me to meet with an EPA official on Tuesday afternoon Sept 22 or Weds late afternoon Sept 23. I was invited to the White House for the welcome ceremony on the south lawn for Pope Francis. While I am in DC it would be helpful for me to meet with an EPA official who can brief me on water quality best practices esp around lead. What do you think?

Thanks again, Dayne

—

Dayne Walling
Mayor, City of Flint
City Hall, 1101 S. Saginaw St.
Flint, MI 48502
810-766-7346
mayor@cityofflint.com
www.cityofflint.com
follow me on twitter at <http://twitter.com/mayorwalling>

Date: Tue, Sep 15, 2015 at 9:19 AM
Subject: Re: Flint followups
To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Mayor Walling —

We are working to set up a meeting for you when you are in DC. In the meantime, I am wondering if you might have time for a quick call — perhaps sometime this afternoon in the range of 3 - 5 pm eastern? If so, just let me know what time works for you and what number I should call.

Thanks,

Susan

Date: Wed, Sep 30, 2015 at 12:48 AM

Subject: Re: water updates

Dear Mayor Walling,

You delayed your action on this issue for an inordinate amount of time. People were told over and over that it was all fine. I am very disappointed in the efforts concerned Pastors and others(the lawsuit, etc) that had to go on before anything substantial was contemplated. I am up north at a priest conference and I am astonished at the taste of the water and the lack of unpleasant smell I am finding here, in contrast to the very unpleasant experience it is to shower in Flint water. I no longer trust the city on this issue. And that we have now a lead problem for babies and children is unconscionable. Permanent brain damage is all our children need.

Respectfully yours,
Fr. Phil Schmitter

Sent from my iPhone

—

Dayne Walling
Mayor, City of Flint
City Hall, 1101 S. Saginaw St.
Flint, MI 48502
810-766-7346
mayor@cityofflint.com
www.cityofflint.com
follow me on twitter at <http://twitter.com/mayorwalling>

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Date: Wed, Sep 30, 2015 at 10:09 PM

Subject: what we are facing in Flint

To: wyantd <Wyantd@michigan.gov>

Dan, I am continuing to communicate with a wide variety of constituents in an attempt to determine the major questions and issues. Below you will find an email that I received personally from a faith community leader who has been incredibly supportive and understanding of the challenges facing Flint. His words really hurt: "I no longer trust the city on this issue." I have searched myself over and over on this. I don't know what more I could have done given the guidance coming from EPA and DEQ and subsequently city staff but this major health issue did come up anyway and our community is paying a huge price.

As the press conference is put together, it is necessary in my mind that we provide an explanation for how this happened and outline the steps that ensure it will never happen again. If this is not provided then the trust will not begin to be restored from what I can tell. I am always available to talk more. Please consider this.

Dayne

[September 15th response from Hedman to Congressman Kildee](#)

“Consistent with the recommendations in the [internal memorandum cited in your letter](#), EPA is working with MDEQ to monitor Flint’s compliance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule. **On August 17, 2015, MDEQ notified Flint that additional treatment will be required to optimize corrosion control** and the City is taking steps to do so. Experts from EPA’s Office of Research and

Development are providing technical assistance to Flint to implement those corrosion control improvements.”

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Date: Mon, Sep 28, 2015 at 2:41 PM
Subject: working on Flint water
To: "Hedman, Susan" <Hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Good afternoon Susan,

I thank you for your continued efforts with us. I understand from talking to DEQ Director Dan Wyant that you could join us later this week. I think that is a good plan.

One of the things you could be very helpful with if your schedule allows is to meet with a group of pastors and faith leaders. Given everything Flint has been through with the Emergency Managers and State there is a sense of mistrust with State agencies. I think it would help our faith leaders a great deal if they could meet with you and hear directly from the federal administration perspective.

Here is a news clip of one group of pastors and their complaints:
<http://www.abc12.com/home/headlines/Rally-held-329788391.html>

I am sure we could identify a host pastor who would ensure a well facilitated dialogue. If you would give that some thought please and keep it in mind as the schedule develops for hopefully later in the week.

thanks, Dayne

Forwarded message
From: **Hedman, Susan** <hedman.susan@epa.gov>
Date: Mon, Sep 28, 2015 at 7:25 PM
Subject: RE: working on Flint water
To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Mayor Walling – I am looking forward to coming to Flint later in the week and would be happy to meet with this group while I am in town. We can work out scheduling details over the next couple of days.

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 29, 2015 at 9:24 PM
Subject: Re: working on Flint water
To: "Hedman, Susan" <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Ok thank you, keep me posted on your schedule and we can see how it can synch up

Forwarded message
From: **Hedman, Susan** <hedman.susan@epa.gov>
Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 9:12 PM
Subject: RE: working on Flint water
To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Mayor Walling –

Unfortunately, I am not going to be able to come to Flint tomorrow. I will, however, be issuing a statement in support of the actions that the City and the State will be announcing at the press conference and EPA will follow up with continued technical assistance. My apologies for delivering this message via e-mail – but I was unable to reach you on your cell. If there is anything that you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to give me a call at [REDACTED]

Thanks,

Susan

On Oct 2, 2015, at 6:11 AM, Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com> wrote:

Good morning Susan and thanks for your continued efforts with us. Would you be willing to send me your statement so I can consider how it may be received here locally? I have cooperated with this particular press effort under the assumption that city, state and federal officials would all be standing together. If you are not able to be there it greatly changes the event.
Thanks again! Dayne

From: **Hedman, Susan** <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

Date: Fri, Oct 2, 2015 at 10:07 AM

Subject: Re: working on Flint water

To: Dayne Walling <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Do you have a few minutes to talk this morning? If so, please let me know what time – and the best number to call.

Sent from my iPhone

From: **Dayne Walling** <dwalling@cityofflint.com>

Date: Fri, Oct 2, 2015 at 11:29 AM

Subject: Re: working on Flint water

To: "Hedman, Susan" <hedman.susan@epa.gov>

I can talk now 8180-280-7684

Sorting out accountability in Flint water issues is "relatively complex"

By LINDSEY SMITH • OCT 5, 2015

When asked if Flint broke federal rules by not having a corrosion control treatment plan, the U.S. EPA said the question was “relatively complex.” Emails show at least one EPA employee believes Flint was required to treat the water to help prevent lead corrosion. But EPA spokespeople haven’t been willing to say, plainly, that Flint broke federal rules.

Here's the written response from EPA Region 5 Administrator Susan Hedman:

"Actions that the State of Michigan and the City of Flint announced (Friday) are important steps to protect public health. The immediate steps being taken to implement corrosion control will reduce lead in drinking water, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. US EPA will continue to provide technical assistance to the State of Michigan and the City of Flint to support their joint effort."

October 7th, 2015 Washington Examiner

Despite calls from residents and activists for help, the Environmental Protection Agency does not plan to step in, saying that Michigan's decision to give water filters to residents and do free testing of water samples is enough to keep the agency from taking a bigger role. The state announced its 10-point plan to respond to the crisis late last week.

"Actions that the state of Michigan and the city of Flint announced last week are important steps to protect public health," said Susan Hedman, the EPA's administrator for the region. "The immediate steps being taken to implement corrosion control will reduce lead in drinking water, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. U.S. EPA will continue to provide technical assistance to the state of Michigan and the city of Flint to support their joint effort."