UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

May 18, 2018

Ms. Maureen Sullivan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Environment, Safety & Occupational Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment)
3400 Defense Pentagon, Room 5C646
Washington, DC 20301-3400
Via e-mail to: Maureen.Sullivan18.civ@mail.mil

Re: Fort Devens Superfund Site, Massachusetts
PFAS Impacts to Devens and Ayer Water Supplies

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1, I am pleased to recognize that we have had the opportunity to discuss productively in recent weeks the complex issues surrounding the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) - specifically perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) - at the Fort Devens Superfund Site in Massachusetts, and in municipal water supply wells in both Devens and the Town of Ayer (Ayer).

PFAS sampling by the U.S. Army (Army) at the Superfund Site indicated PFOA/PFOS levels above EPA's 70 ppt Lifetime Health Advisory in Ayer's Grove Pond drinking water wells; at 490 ppt in the Commonwealth's Zone II Wellhead Protection Area for the Grove Pond wells; above 4,000 ppt in the Commonwealth's Zone II Wellhead Protection Area for Devens' MacPherson well; and above 39,000 ppt in nearby water monitoring wells. As you are aware, upon notification of PFAS contamination to drinking water suppliers by Massachusetts DEP, the Grove Pond well 8 and MacPherson water supply wells were shut down.

Just this week, the Army agreed to sample a number of public and private wells within a mile of the site. Further, we understand that Army has agreed to conduct Devens' and Ayer's PFAS monitoring of water supply wells, and will be coordinating soon with the water suppliers directly to work out the details. We greatly appreciate Army's work to date.

Our ongoing coordination here is vital, and we look forward to helping - where needed - with the Army's new efforts. Beyond sampling, we are confident that the Army and the towns can reach

an agreement for further response and remediation initiatives. Until these wells come back online, the towns will struggle to meet current demand, may need to rely on continuous short-term mitigation measures, can be vulnerable to emergencies, and will have limited capacity for maintenance and repair.

Again, we appreciate the new direction the Army is taking with its expanded sampling work. We also appreciate your efforts to drive this conversation toward a proactive resolution as quickly - and as thoroughly - as possible.

I look forward to working with you over the coming weeks to achieve these goals, in both the short- and long-term for these towns.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn
Regional Administrator

cc: Martin Suuberg, Commissioner, MassDEP
Lauren Liss, MassDevelopment
Jim Moore, MassDevelopment
Mark Wetzel, Town of Ayer