# JUDITH ENCK, EPA REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
# JANUARY 14, 2015
# HOOSICK FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL, HOOSICK FALLS, NEW YORK

***(Slide 1 –EPA logo)***

- **THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING.**

- **A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)**

- **ESTABLISHED IN 1970 AS THE NATION'S PREMIER ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY AGENCY, WORKING FOR CLEAN AIR AND CLEAN WATER AND A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PAST 45 YEARS.**

- **WE WORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE, DRINKING WATER, CLEAN AIR.**

    - **RECENTLY TOOK ACTION AGAINST VOLKSWAGEN WHEN WE LEARNED THEY WERE CHEATING ON THEIR AIR POLLUTION DEVICES ON THEIR DIESEL CARS.**

- **EPA ALSO HAS EXPERIENCE CLEANING UP TOXIC SITES AND GROUNDWATER.**

- **BASED IN WASHINGTON, DC WITH 10 REGIONAL OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.**

- **I AM REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR REGION 2 AND AM RESPONSIBLE FOR NY, 8 INDIAN NATIONS IN NY, NJ, PUERTO RICO AND THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS.**

- WE WORK CLOSELY WITH NY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND NY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

- I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE MY EPA COLLEAGUES WHO ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH ME ON THIS PROBLEM:

  - DR. ANAHITA WILLIAMSON, SCIENCE DIRECTOR WHO ALSO HAS A PHD IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING.

  - PAT EVANGELISTA, A CHEMICAL ENGINEER WHO WORKED ON THE RESPONSE TO THE POLLUTION ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE WORLD TRADE CENTER TRAGEDY ON 9/11.

  - DR. MARK MADDALONI, TOXICOLOGIST

  - PAUL SIMON, ATTORNEY

  - JOAN MATTHEWS, HEAD OF OUR CLEAN WATER DIVISION. FORMER PROFESSOR FROM ALBANY LAW SCHOOL.

  - WALTER MUGDAN, HEAD OF OUR SUPERFUND DIVISION AND ALSO AN ATTORNEY.

  - JOE ROTOLA, THE CHIEF OF THE REMOVAL ACTION BRANCH IN THE SUPERFUND DIVISION.

  - NICK MAGRIPLES, ON-SCENE COORDINATOR IN THE SUPERFUND DIVISION, WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY THE EXTENT OF THE CONTAMINATION AND ANY INTERIM MEASURES THAT MAY BE NEEDED.

- TWO ADDITIONAL KEY NAMES TO REMEMBER:

- **JOHN DIMARTINO, IN OUR SUPERFUND PROGRAM.**

***(Slide 2 – Larisa)***

- **LARISA ROMANOWSKI, WORKING OUT OF THE EPA OFFICE IN COLONIE, IS OUR PUBLIC POINT OF CONTACT ON THIS ISSUE.**
- **PLEASE WRITE DOWN HER CONTACT INFORMATION: 518 407 0400 OR** [ HYPERLINK "mailto:romanowski.larisa@epa.gov" ] (one "R")
  - **I WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH LARISSA AND SHE WILL BE WORKING WITH OUR ENTIRE EPA TEAM AND WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO YOUR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS.**

***(Slide 3 – website)***

- **EPA HAS ALSO ESTABLISHED A WEB PAGE WHERE WE POST THE LATEST INFORMATION THAT IS HELPFUL TO YOU:**
  - [ HYPERLINK "http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/hoosick-falls-water-contamination" ]
- **EPA ISSUED A NEW HOOSICK FALLS "FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS" DOCUMENT. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE HERE FOR YOU TO BRING HOME.**

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- **WHAT IS PFOA?**
- **PER FLUORO OC-TEN-Ō-IK ACID,**
  - **ALSO KNOWN AS P F O A**

- OR P—F—O-- A
- OR C8 (BECAUSE IT CONTAINS 8 CARBON MOLECULES)

- IT IS A FLUORINE-CONTAINING CHEMICAL THAT IS PRIMARILY USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF FLUOROPOLYMERS SUCH AS "PTFE" OR POLY-TETRA-FLUORO-ETHYLENE.

*(Slide 4 – pan)*

- YOU PROBABLY REMEMBER DUPONT'S "TEFLON", WHICH MADE POTS AND PANS NON-STICK. "TEFLON" IS JUST ONE TRADEMARK EXAMPLE OF THE CHEMICAL PTFE.

- PTFE IS ALSO USED, FOR EXAMPLE, TO INSULATE WIRES FOR COMPUTERS AND AIRPLANES.

- IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT PFOA WAS NOT MANUFACTURED IN HOOSICK FALLS, AS FAR AS EPA KNOWS.
    - BUT PFOA WAS A COMPONENT OF THE PTFE THAT WAS USED AT THE FACILITIES LOCATED AT 14 MCCAFFREY STREET AND 1 LIBERTY STREET AND WHICH ARE NOW OWNED BY SAINT-GOBAIN.

- OTHER FACILITIES IN HOOSICK FALLS MAY HAVE USED PTFE IN THE PAST AS WELL.

- PFOA BIODEGRADES VERY SLOWLY AND IS VERY PERSISTENT IN THE ENVIRONMENT.

- **BECAUSE THIS CHEMICAL IS SUCH A PROBLEM, IN 2006, 8 MAJOR COMPANIES THAT MADE PFOA SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH EPA TO VOLUNTARILY STOP MAKING PFOA BY DECEMBER 2015.**

- **THESE EIGHT COMPANIES MADE MOST OF THE PFOA IN THE UNITED STATES.**

***(Slide 5 – company list)***

- **THE 8 COMPANIES ARE:**

    - **ARKEMA**
    - **ASAHI**
    - **BASF**
    - **CLARIANT**
    - **DAIKIN**
    - **3M/DYNEON**
    - **DUPONT**
    - **SOLVAY SOLEXIS**

- **THE CHEMICAL IS READILY ABSORBED AFTER YOU CONSUME OR INHALE IT AND IT ACCUMULATES PRIMARILY IN THE BLOOD STREAM, KIDNEY AND LIVER.**

- **TOXICOLOGICAL STUDIES ON ANIMALS SHOW POTENTIAL REPRODUCTIVE/DEVELOPMENTAL EFFECTS, SUCH AS LOW BIRTH WEIGHT AND DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS, AS WELL AS EFFECTS ON MAJOR ORGAN SYSTEMS, SUCH AS INCREASED LIVER MASS.**

***(Slide 6 – water glass)***

- **YOU CAN BE EXPOSED TO PFOA FROM DRINKING WATER OR FROM AIR.**

***(Slide 7 – possibly carcinogenic)***

- **THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER, WHICH IS PART OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, HAS CLASSIFIED PFOA AS "POSSIBLY CARCINOGENIC IN HUMANS."**

***(Slide 8 – disease list)***

- **IN 2012, A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON PEOPLE LIVING IN OHIO AND WEST VIRGINIA, WHO HAD BEEN DRINKING WATER CONTAINING PFOA FOR AT LEAST A YEAR, FOUND PROBABLE LINKS WITH SIX DISEASES:**
    - **KIDNEY CANCER**
    - **TESTICULAR CANCER**
    - **ULCERATIVE COLITIS (ŬL – SĬR – Ă – TIVE)**
    - **THYROID DISEASE**
    - **PREGNANCY INDUCED HYPERTENSION**
    - **MEDICALLY DIAGNOSED HIGH CHOLESTEROL**

***(Slide 9 – running faucet)***

- **WE DON'T KNOW HOW LONG HOOSICK FALLS RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN DRINKING WATER WITH PFOA IN IT.**

- **WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE PFOA LEVELS WERE IN THE WATER PRIOR TO THE FIRST DRINKING WATER TESTING THAT WAS DONE IN HOOSICK FALLS FOR PFOA IN 2014.**

- IN ADDITION, NO MEDICAL STUDIES OR SURVEYS HAVE BEEN DONE IN HOOSICK FALLS.

- GIVEN THE TOXICITY OF PFOA AND THE FACT THAT IT HAS BEEN FOUND IN THE HOOSICK FALLS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY AT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN THE EPA PROVISIONAL HEALTH ADVISORY, ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH.

- IN HOOSICK FALLS, UNTIL THE BOTTLED WATER PROGRAM WAS PUT IN PLACE, MOST RESIDENTS WERE GETTING THEIR WATER FROM THE MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY, WHICH HAS ITS INTAKE WELLS AT A DISTANCE OF ABOUT 500 YARDS FROM THE SAINT-GOBAIN FACILITY AT 14 MCCAFFREY STREET.

- A SMALLER NUMBER OF PEOPLE GET DRINKING WATER FROM THEIR OWN PRIVATE WELLS.

- ABOUT 4,500 PEOPLE USE THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY. SO, I WILL DISCUSS THAT FIRST.

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- EPA HAS A PROVISIONAL HEALTH ADVISORY FOR SHORT-TERM EXPOSURE TO PFOA.

- SHORT TERM MEANS WEEKS OR MONTHS.

- THE ADVISORY SAYS PEOPLE SHOULD NOT DRINK WATER IF IT HAS MORE THAN 400 PARTS PER TRILLION OF PFOA IN IT.

- SAMPLES COLLECTED FROM THE HOOSICK FALLS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ON JUNE 4, 2015 SHOWED THAT THE DRINKING WATER

**HAD MORE THAN 600 PARTS PER TRILLION OF PFOA IN IT, IN 4 OF THE 5 SAMPLES.**

***(Slide 10 – well list)***

- **STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SAMPLING RESULTS FROM SUMMER 2015:**

| LOCATION: | PFOA LEVEL: |
|---|---|
| SUPPLY WELL #3 RAW WATER | 151 PPT |
| SUPPLY WELL #7 RAW WATER | 620 PPT |
| WATER TREATMENT PLANT FINISHED WATER | 662 PPT |
| TAP WATER FROM BUILDING ON VILLAGE WATER SYSTEM | 612 PPT |
| TAP WATER FROM BUILDING ON VILLAGE WATER SYSTEM | 618 PPT |

***(Slide 11 – St. Gobain levels)***

- **SAINT-GOBAIN, TO THEIR CREDIT, DID SAMPLING OF GROUNDWATER LAST YEAR AT THEIR MCCAFFREY STREET FACILITY AND FOUND GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION LEVELS AS HIGH AS 18,000 PARTS PER TRILLION OF PFOA.**

- **8 PRIVATE WELLS OUTSIDE OF THE VILLAGE OF HOOSICK FALLS WERE SAMPLED BY THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

  - **PFOA WAS FOUND IN 4 OF THE 8 WELLS.**

  - **OF THE FOUR, THE LEVELS RANGED FROM 14 PARTS PER TRILLION TO 194 PARTS PER TRILLION – BELOW THE CURRENT EPA HEALTH ADVISORY.**

- **10 ADDITIONAL PRIVATE WELLS WERE SAMPLED IN NOVEMBER OUTSIDE OF THE VILLAGE, AND RESULTS ARE EXPECTED THIS MONTH.**
    - **AND 5 ADDITIONAL PRIVATE WELLS WERE SAMPLED ON JANUARY 6TH.**

***(Slide 12 – Albert Demarco)***

- **IF YOU WANT TO GET YOUR PRIVATE WELL SAMPLED, PLEASE CONTACT ALBERT DEMARCO WITH THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT**
    - **518 402 7860**
    - **OR SEND HIM AN EMAIL AT** [ HYPERLINK "mailto:beei@health.ny.gov" ] **IN ALBANY.**
- **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU, THE RESIDENTS OF HOOSICK FALLS?**
- **AT THIS TIME:**

***(Slide 13 – do not drink)***

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER FROM THE HOOSICK FALLS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.**

***(Slide 14 – do not cook)***

- **DO NOT COOK WITH THE WATER FROM THE HOOSICK FALLS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.**

- DO NOT USE WATER FROM THE HOOSICK FALLS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY FOR HUMIDIFIERS.

- EPA DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SKIN CONTACT WITH PFOA-CONTAMINATED WATER FROM THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY IS A SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE.
  - HOWEVER, CHILDREN AND PEOPLE WITH SKIN CONDITIONS SUCH AS RASHES AND CUTS AND ABRASIONS, SHOULD AVOID LONG SHOWERS AND LONG BATHS.

  - AND OPEN THE BATHROOM WINDOW, IF YOU CAN, WHILE USING THE SHOWER OR BATH.

- UNTIL AN EFFECTIVE TREATMENT SYSTEM IS PUT IN PLACE AT THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY, SAINT-GOBAIN IS PAYING FOR RESIDENTS TO GET UP TO 5 GALLONS A DAY OF BOTTLED WATER, PER HOUSEHOLD, AT THE LOCAL TOPP'S SUPERMARKET.

- THAT IS A GOOD START, BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

*(Slide 15 – letter)*

- EPA HAS WRITTEN TO SAINT-GOBAIN AND THE VILLAGE AND RECOMMENDED THAT:

  - HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVE MORE THAN 5 GALLONS PER DAY IF THEY CAN EXPLAIN WHY THEY NEED MORE.

  - SAINT-GOBAIN PAY FOR HOME DELIVERY OF WATER TO SENIOR CITIZENS, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHERS WHO MAY NEED HOME DELIVERY.

- AN EVALUATION BE DONE OF HOW THE BOTTLED WATER PROGRAM IS WORKING AND WHETHER DRINKING WATER SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN ADDITIONAL WAYS ON AN INTERIM BASIS –
    - SUCH AS BY INSTALLING TANKS FROM WHICH WATER CAN BE DISPENSED IN OTHER AREAS OF THE VILLAGE.

- ON A LONGER TERM BASIS, THE GOOD NEWS, IF THERE IS ANY, IS THAT THERE ARE TECHNOLOGIES THAT CAN BE USED TO REMOVE PFOA FROM PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES.

- SAINT-GOBAIN HAS SAID IT WILL PAY FOR RETROFITTING THE EXISTING PUBLIC WATER TREATMENT PLANT WITH A GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON TREATMENT SYSTEM.

*(Slide 16 – treatment schedule)*

- BUT, THAT CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED UNTIL THE END OF OCTOBER OF 2016. THE NEW TREATMENT SYSTEM IS BEING DESIGNED NOW. THERE IS A SCHEDULE ON THE VILLAGE'S WEB SITE –

  [ HYPERLINK "http://www.villageofhoosickfalls.com/news.html" ]

- THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL REVIEW THE ENGINEERING WORK AND WILL ONLY APPROVE A TREATMENT SYSTEM THAT EFFECTIVELY REMOVES THE PFOA FROM THE WATER SUPPLY.

- BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT PEOPLE TO HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL LATE OCTOBER TO HAVE CLEAN DRINKING WATER FROM THEIR OWN HOMES, EPA HAS WRITTEN TO SAINT-GOBAIN, THE VILLAGE AND OTHERS TO RECOMMEND THAT A TEMPORARY FILTRATION

SYSTEM – MOUNTED ON A TRUCK, FOR EXAMPLE -- BE EVALUATED IMMEDIATELY.

- LAST WEEK, THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENDORSED THE USE OF A TEMPORARY GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON TREATMENT SYSTEM AT THE HOOSICK FALLS WATER TREATMENT PLANT. THIS SYSTEM WOULD BE USED TO REMOVE PFOA FROM THE WATER SUPPLY UNTIL THEY FINISH THE PERMANENT RETROFIT OF THE PLANT.

- SAINT-GOBAIN IS AGREEING TO PAY FOR THIS TEMPORARY SYSTEM, AS WELL AS THE PERMANENT SYSTEM.

- THE TEMPORARY TREATMENT SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO BE FINISHED SOMETIME IN FEBRUARY.

- SO, AGAIN, THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE IS TO ENSURE THAT THE RESIDENTS OF HOOSICK FALLS HAVE ACCESS TO SAFE, CLEAN DRINKING WATER.

    - THAT IS NOT A LOT TO ASK.

- BUT, THERE IS A BIGGER PICTURE.

    - MORE PRIVATE WELL SAMPLING IS NEEDED IN THE AREA.

    - A STUDY NEEDS TO BE DONE TO INVESTIGATE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE CONTAMINATION AND TO IDENTIFY ALL OF THE SOURCES OF THE CONTAMINATION –

        - IN OTHER WORDS, WHERE IS THE POLLUTION COMING FROM?

- **THERE NEEDS TO BE AN EVALUATION OF WHETHER THERE ARE ONE OR MORE INTERIM MEASURES THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THE POLLUTION, SUCH AS TO KEEP THE UNDERGROUND PLUME FROM SPREADING FURTHER.**

***(Slide 17 – plume explained)***

- **LET ME EXPLAIN WHAT I MEAN BY PLUME.**
    - **WATER BELOW THE EARTH'S SURFACE, KNOWN AS GROUNDWATER, IS FOUND IN THE SMALL SPACES, OR PORES, BETWEEN SOIL GRAINS AND WITHIN FRACTURES LOCATED IN ROCK FORMATIONS.**
    - **WHEN TOXIC CONTAMINATION GETS INTO GROUNDWATER, IT CAN MOVE INDEPENDENTLY AS A SEPARATE LIQUID OR DISSOLVE INTO GROUNDWATER AND MOVE WITH THE GROUNDWATER FLOW.**
    - **THIS RESULTING MASS OF CONTAMINATION IN THE GROUNDWATER IS REFERRED TO AS A PLUME.**
    - **THAT IS WHY A VERY DETAILED STUDY OF GROUNDWATER IS NEEDED IN HOOSICK FALLS TO KNOW WHAT WE ARE DEALING WITH AND HOW TO BEST ADDRESS IT.**
- **A FEASIBILITY STUDY AND REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN NEED TO BE DONE.**

***(Slide 18 – river)***

- **NEEDS TO BE SAMPLING IN THE HOOSICK RIVER.**

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- **THESE ARE ACTIONS THAT EPA IS DISCUSSING WITH THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND OTHERS.**

- **EPA HAS BEGUN THE PROCESS OF INVESTIGATING THE POTENTIAL SOURCES OF THE POLLUTION AND WHAT LAWS WE WILL USE TO ENSURE IT IS CLEANED UP.**
    - **THIS MAY BE THE FEDERAL SUPERFUND PROGRAM, THE FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT, OR OTHER FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.**

- **EPA HAS A LONG HISTORY OF DEALING WITH CONTAMINATED SITES AND WE KNOW HOW TO TRACK DOWN THE POLLUTION AND REMOVE IT OR AT LEAST CONTAIN IT SO IT DOES NOT CONTINUE TO THREATEN PUBLIC HEALTH OR THE ENVIRONMENT.**

- **WE ARE GIVING THIS CONTAMINATION PROBLEM A HIGH PRIORITY.**

- **I DO WANT TO WARN YOU THAT IT TAKES TIME -- LONGER THAN YOU WANT IT TO TAKE -- TO COMPLETE AN INVESTIGATION OF THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE CONTAMINATION AND GET IT CLEANED UP.**

    - **COMPLETING THIS TYPE OF WORK TAKES YEARS.**

    - **BUT WE ARE GOING TO MAKE SURE THAT IT HAPPENS.**

- **IN THE MEANTIME, PROVIDING SAFE DRINKING WATER HAS TO CONTINUE AND BE TAKEN CARE OF IMMEDIATELY.**

- NO DELAY ON THAT ISSUE.

- EPA WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE STATE OF NEW YORK, THE VILLAGE OF HOOSICK FALLS, THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, YOU: THE RESIDENTS OF HOOSICK FALLS.

- YOU DESERVE TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON WITH YOUR DRINKING WATER AND YOU DESERVE ANSWERS.

*(Slide 19 – EPA logo)*

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- THAT CONCLUDES MY OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION AS AN EPA REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR.

- BUT BEFORE WE TAKE QUESTIONS, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU AS A RESIDENT OF RENSSELAER COUNTY AND AS A PARENT.

- ABOUT SIX YEARS AGO I HAD THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO WORK FOR THE EPA.

    - A FEDERAL AGENCY THAT I GREATLY RESPECT.

- THAT IS JUST ABOUT THE ONLY REASON I WOULD HAVE MOVED AWAY FROM THE TOWN OF POESTENKILL (ABOUT 20 MILES FROM HERE) WHERE I LIVED ON TOP OF A MOUNTAIN FOR 25 YEARS, WITH MY FAMILY.

- WE STILL HAVE OUR HOME IN POESTENKILL, AND I RETURN HOME AS OFTEN AS I CAN.

- **WE RAISED OUR SON IN POESTENKILL AND HE ATTENDED THE AVERILL PARK SCHOOL SYSTEMS FROM KINDERGARDEN TO GRADUATION.**

- **AS A MOTHER, I CAN BARELY IMAGINE HOW DIFFICULT THIS DRINKING WATER SITUATION HAS BEEN FOR ALL OF THE PARENTS IN THIS COMMUNITY.**
- **YOU ARE ALL BUSY PEOPLE.**

- **THE LAST THING YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IS WHETHER OR NOT YOUR DRINKING WATER IN YOUR OWN KITCHEN IS SAFE.**

- **I AM VERY VERY SORRY THAT YOU HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH THIS.**

- **I AM SORRY THAT WE DO NOT KNOW HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN DRINKING CONTAMINATED WATER.**

- **IT IS GOOD THAT THIS IS ALL OUT IN THE OPEN.**

- **IT IS GOOD THAT YOU HAVE SUCH AMAZING LOCAL LEADERS LIKE DR. MARCUS MARTINEZ**

  **AND**

- **MICHAEL HICKEY, WHO TRAGICALLY LOST HIS FATHER TO CANCER AND WHO THEN DECIDED TO DO HIS OWN RESEARCH; SPEND HIS OWN MONEY TO TEST THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY; AND INFORM HIS NEIGHBORS.**

- **THERE ARE MANY MORE OF YOU WHO HAVE DONE YOUR OWN RESEARCH.**

- **KEEP AT IT AND STAY INFORMED.**

- **YOU HAVE TAKEN TIME OUT OF YOUR BUSY LIVES TO ATTEND MEETINGS, LIKE THIS ONE.**

- **AND YOU ARE STANDING UP FOR YOUR COMMUNITY.**
- **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU STAY INFORMED AND STAY INVOLVED.**

- **GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO BE TRANSPARENT AND RESPONSIVE.**

- **EPA WILL PUT AS MUCH INFORMATION UP ON THE EPA WEB SITE AS POSSIBLE.**

- **WE WILL ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.**

- **AND QUITE FRANKLY, WE WILL TELL YOU WHEN WE DON'T HAVE THE ANSWERS.**

- **WORKING <u>TOGETHER</u>, WE WILL ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM.**

- **GOING FORWARD, WE WILL WORK WITH OUR PARTNERS IN GOVERNMENT, AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AND THE STATE LEVEL, TO ENSURE THAT YOUR HEALTH,**

    - **YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH,**

    - **AND YOUR ENVIRONMENT, ARE PROTECTED.**

- **NOTHING, <u>ABSOLUTELY NOTHING</u>, IS MORE IMPORTANT.**