Message

From: damm, thomas [Damm.Thomas@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/29/2018 5:04:57 PM
To: Bennett, James [bennett.james@epa.gov]; rogers, rick [rogers.rick@epa.gov]
CC: McManus, Catharine [mcmanus.catharine@epa.gov]; Cohen, Amy [Cohen.Amy@epa.gov]; Duchovnay, Andrew [Duchovnay.Andrew@epa.gov]; kremer, janet [kremer.janet@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Question
Attachments: Mountaire Talking Points.docx

Jim, Rick,
In the attached document, I added the information from last week's salient issue to the previous set of talking points. Would you please review for accuracy and add any salient point you believe Cosmo should have? Thanks.
Tom

-----Original Message-----
From: damm, thomas
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Bennett, James <bennett.james@epa.gov>; rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>
Cc: McManus, Catharine <mcmanus.catharine@epa.gov>; Cohen, Amy <Cohen.Amy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question

Jim, Rick,
Below are the talking points Kate sent on Jan. 18.
Do you have any updates besides the information in the salient issue?
Thanks.
Tom

Talking points for Cosmo on Mountaire:

- Region III is concerned at the recent elevated in levels of nitrates in drinking wells around the Mountaire Farm in Sussex County that were identified in a DNREC NOV in November.
- Region III has an existing 1431 EPA Emergency Order on Consent in place for 7 residences around Mountaire that dates back to 2003.
- Recent sampling has identified an additional 40-60 residences in the vicinity of the farm that may be impacted by ongoing nitrate pollution from wastewater spraying operations.
- Earlier this month, Mountaire announced that they were offering to assist 88 homeowners around the facility with alternative water sources (deeper wells, treatment or hook up to public water).

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

- In speaking with your staff, we understand that the NOV has been referred to the Attorney General for action.
- ORC has spoken with the Attorney General's Office about working cooperatively with them. These conversations will continue.
- What action is DNREC planning to take and what is the timeframe?
-

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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- We have a tentative meeting scheduled the week of January 29 with your staff to discuss options and plan a way forward.
- We want to work with you to resolve this issue.

-----Original Message-----
From: McManus, Catharine
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 11:45 AM
To: damm, thomas <Damm.Thomas@epa.gov>
Cc: schafer, joan <schafer.joan@epa.gov>; Bennett, James <bennett.james@epa.gov>; kremer, janet <kremer.janet@epa.gov>; rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Question

Tom- yes I would appreciate-thought I would have more time this morning.

Kate McManus
Acting Director, Water Protection Division EPA Region III
215-814-5337

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 29, 2018, at 11:43 AM, damm, thomas <Damm.Thomas@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> Kate,
> Do you need assistance in developing the Mountaire talking points?
> Below is the most recent salient issue on the topic along with a Shawn
> Garvin reference in a Mountaire article in today's clips. Here is a
> link to the full article -
> http://www.capegazette.com/article/residents-demand-action-reduce-nitr
> ates-groundwater/149952
> Thanks.
> Tom
>
> EPA and DNREC are working cooperatively to have Mountaire Farms supply a permanent alternate source of drinking water to residents in Millsboro, Delaware. Issuance of a DNREC Notice of Violation to the Mountaire Farms facility on November 2, 2017 placed Mountaire Farms in violation of an existing 2003 EPA 1431 Order on Consent to limit discharges that may contribute to levels of Nitrate in the ground water.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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> Shawn Garvin references in today's article:
> Shawn Garvin, secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, said Mountaire notified his department after discovering in August that high levels of nitrates and fecal coliform had been applied to adjoining farmland. "They were in our office the next day," he said. Garvin said DNREC has made sure residents with water problems receive potable water while state officials investigate what happened.
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> -----Original Message-----
> From: McManus, Catharine
> Sent: Friday, January 26, 2018 4:57 PM
> To: schafer, joan <schafer.joan@epa.gov>
> Cc: damm, thomas <Damm.Thomas@epa.gov>
> Subject: Re: Question
>
> Joan-
> We will get something to you by mid-day Monday.
>
> Kate McManus
> Acting Director, Water Protection Division EPA Region III
> 215-814-5337
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
>> On Jan 26, 2018, at 3:03 PM, schafer, joan <schafer.joan@epa.gov> wrote:
>>
>> Kate, you shared with us two weeks ago some TPs about Mountaire. Do they need to be updated or is the info current?
>> I'd like to make sure Cosmo has those tps in case he gets asked a question by a reporter at the PISCES award event.
>> Thanks.
>> Joan
>>
>> Sent from my iPhone