Message

From: Bahr, Ryan [bahr.ryan@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/11/2018 12:07:49 AM
To: Kuefler, Patrick [kuefler.patrick@epa.gov]; Burdett, Cheryl [burdett.cheryl@epa.gov]; Maraldo, Dean [Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov]; Shoven, Heather [shoven.heather@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

Looks good.

From: Kuefler, Patrick
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 5:47 PM
To: Burdett, Cheryl <burdett.cheryl@epa.gov>; Maraldo, Dean <Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>; Shoven, Heather <shoven.heather@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

Ok see below

From: Burdett, Cheryl
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 2:53 PM
To: Kuefler, Patrick <kuefler.patrick@epa.gov>; Maraldo, Dean <Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>; Shoven, Heather <shoven.heather@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

Hi Pat,

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Sincerely,

From: Kuefler, Patrick
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 2:35 PM
To: Burdett, Cheryl <burdett.cheryl@epa.gov>; Maraldo, Dean <Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>; Shoven, Heather <shoven.heather@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

See below for proposed responses below. Correct anything that is not accurate

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From: Burdett, Cheryl
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Maraldo, Dean <Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>; Kuefler, Patrick

<kuefler.patrick@epa.gov>; Shoven, Heather <shoven.heather@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

Hello Dean, Ryan, and Pat:

I have few questions regarding the Reporter's questions below:

1. Should we send this e-mail to Allison Lippert and explain to her that we are in process of putting all of our groundwater data with some drinking water data on an EPA website that will have a link, so that the public and view the data?

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Please let me know if I should put something together and send it to all of you for review and then send our response to Allison Lippert?

Sincerely,

Cheryl Burdett

From: Singer, Joshua
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 10:42 AM
To: Holst, Linda <holst.linda@epa.gov>; Maraldo, Dean <Maraldo.Dean@epa.gov>; Bahr, Ryan <bahr.ryan@epa.gov>; Poy, Thomas <poy.thomas@epa.gov>; Burdett, Cheryl <burdett.cheryl@epa.gov>; Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>
Cc: Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

Water Division,

Please see the questions below from Lee Berquist at Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and let me know your suggested responses. Thank you.

1. I would like to get the results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin near Juneau County and an update on how the agency is responding to concerns about water quality in the region. I have a link to my story - https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2018/05/04/epa-investigates-possible-groundwater-contamination-central-wisconsin-worries-grow/579422002/. Main point here is inform the public of your efforts and any followup by the EPA. The results are still being compiled. We hope to make the data available in the near future.

2. What were the results of the 41 samples taken? EPA is still evaluating the results received so far.

3. Have you communicated those results to state or local officials, or citizens in the area? We have communicated preliminary information with WDNR. We anticipate making the data available to the public in the near future.

4. What is the next step by the EPA on this matter? EPA is completing analysis of the data received and will work with WDNR to determine next steps.

5. Are there plans for additional tests, or investigate further the source and extent of groundwater contamination? EPA currently has no plans for additional sampling in the area.

6. Has the EPA asked experts in Wisconsin to provide additional information that will help the agency with its determination? EPA is working WDNR to evaluate the data.

7. For example, have you asked the DNR or UW-Stevens Point for past sampling of groundwater contamination, such as for nitrates? EPA consulted with WDNR in planning the sampling event including obtaining some existing data.

8. Have you asked experts in the state for information on local hydrology conditions, such groundwater flow to help in your work? EPA did consult with WDNR in planning the sampling event which included information on local hydrology.

Again, I am not sure why we would say planning but more like reached out to ask for information regarding hydrology, sampling data etc.

Lee Bergquist
Reporter
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK

Office: 414.224.2169
Mobile: 414.588.0244

Francisco Arcaute
US EPA R5 press office
312 886 7613
Cell 312 898 2042

From: Singer, Joshua
Sent: Monday, July 9, 2018 3:43 PM
To: Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>
Cc: Arcaute, Francisco <Arcaute.Francisco@epa.gov>; Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

I can handle this one since it is for the Water Division. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 9, 2018, at 3:17 PM, Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov> wrote:

Josh, you've been working on this issue, haven't you?

Jeff Kelley
Director, Office of External Communications
U.S. EPA Region 5
ph: 312-353-1159

From: Arcaute, Francisco
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 3:10 PM
To: regionalpress <regionalpress@epa.gov>; Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>; Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>
Subject: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Berquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Lee Bergquist) ((recd 7/9)) OPEN. Reporter requests results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin, near Juneau County. DDL not indicated.

R5 will share proposed answers for approval.

Reporter's questions:

> I would like to get the results of water sampling EPA conducted in early May in central Wisconsin near Juneau County and an update on how the agency is responding to concerns about water quality in the region.
>
> I have a link to my story
> - https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2018/05/04/epa-investigates-possible-groundwater-contamination-central-wisconsin-worries-grow/579422002/
>
> Main point here is inform the public of your efforts and any followup by the EPA.
>
> Perhaps you could put me in touch with appropriate staffer?

PREVIOUSLY SENT TO REPORTER

Lee – please attribute responses to an agency spokesperson:

What prompted the agency to conduct the tests?
EPA is monitoring groundwater after receiving complaints of private drinking water well contamination.

Was the EPA responding to complaints about high nitrate levels in the water, including a report of one mother who said that she was forced to terminate a pregnancy because of a severe birth defect?
EPA has received numerous complaints from citizens in the area.

When do you expect to have results - and what is the next step of the agency after getting the results?
EPA will analyze the results and determine if an environmental problem subject to EPA authority exists.

If the results show high nitrate levels that exceed drinking water standards, what will you do?
EPA will coordinate with state and local agencies to address any problem.

Have you communicated the reason for the trip with Central Sands Dairy, the largest farm in the area?
EPA coordinated the evaluation with state and local authorities but has not contacted any private entities except where access to private property was required to conduct the evaluation.

Please confirm the following facts that EPA personnel shared with Cristi Sullivan-Greening:

41 bore holes for water sampling - at a shallow depth and deeper depth 60 to 80 feet.
Samples were taken from depths of 45-49 feet and 30-34 feet.

The testing will take place from roughly 20th Ave. and 4th street to the Wisconsin River.
Testing took place West of Lake Pentewell from the Wood County Line to the North and South to 8th Steet.

(In an email, the DNR said a short while ago said that the EPA would be conducing groundwater sampling around Central Sands Dairy's land application fields and production area in Juneau County from April 30-May 4.)

Lee Bergquist
Reporter
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

<image001.jpg>

Office: 414.224.2169
Mobile: 414.588.0244

Francisco Arcaute
US EPA R5 press office
312 886 7613
Cell 312 898 2042