Message

From: schafer, joan [schafer.joan@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/12/2018 5:58:05 PM
To: rogers, rick [rogers.rick@epa.gov]; Servidio, Cosmo [Servidio.Cosmo@epa.gov]; Rodrigues, Cecil [rodrigues.cecil@epa.gov]; D'Andrea, Michael [DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV]; Coe, Mary [Coe.Mary@epa.gov]; McManus, Catharine [mcmanus.catharine@epa.gov]; Lueckenhoff, Dominique [Lueckenhoff.Dominique@epa.gov]; Duchovnay, Andrew [Duchovnay.Andrew@epa.gov]; Reinhart, Roger [Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov]; Miller, Linda [miller.linda@epa.gov]; Fields, Jenifer [fields.jenifer@epa.gov]; Searfoss, Renee [searfoss.renee@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Chemours Letter Rollout

Folks, the letter has been posted by HQ onto the following website...thanks.
https://www.epa.gov/pfas/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfass-what-epa-doing#enforcement

Joan T. Schafer, Senior Advisor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 3 Office of Communications and Government Relations
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-5143 (ph)
215-814-5102

From: rogers, rick
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2018 12:17 PM
To: schafer, joan <schafer.joan@epa.gov>; Servidio, Cosmo <Servidio.Cosmo@epa.gov>; Rodrigues, Cecil <rodrigues.cecil@epa.gov>; D'Andrea, Michael <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>; Coe, Mary <Coe.Mary@epa.gov>; McManus, Catharine <mcmanus.catharine@epa.gov>; Lueckenhoff, Dominique <Lueckenhoff.Dominique@epa.gov>; Duchovnay, Andrew <Duchovnay.Andrew@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Miller, Linda <miller.linda@epa.gov>; Fields, Jenifer <fields.jenifer@epa.gov>; Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Chemours Letter Rollout

FYI,

This morning, I sent a copy of the signed letter to Scott Mandirola at WVDEP and to Walt Ivey and Pat Murphy at WV Department of Health (public water supply program). They have been aware that this request was in the works and on its way, shortly.

Rick

Rick Rogers, Associate Director
Office of Drinking Water and Source Water Protection
Water Protection Division (3WP20)
U.S. EPA Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
rogers.rick@epa.gov
Office: 215.814.5711
Cell: 215.341.4762

From: schafer, joan
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2018 7:00 AM
To: Servidio, Cosmo <Servidio.Cosmo@epa.gov>; Rodrigues, Cecil <rodrigues.cecil@epa.gov>; D'Andrea, Michael <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>; Coe, Mary <Coe.Mary@epa.gov>; McManus, Catharine <mcmanus.catharine@epa.gov>; Lueckenhoff, Dominique <Lueckenhoff.Dominique@epa.gov>; rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Duchovnay, Andrew <Duchovnay.Andrew@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Miller, Linda <miller.linda@epa.gov>; Fields, Jenifer <fields.jenifer@epa.gov>; Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Chemours Letter Rollout

We received approvals from all required offices in HQ to issue the letter this morning and make appropriate notifications.

The rollout plan is below (I will share with R5 PAD). The approved desk statement and Q&As also are below for your reference.
Thank you. joan

Rollout Plan for Issuance of the Letter to Chemours, Washington Works, WV
January 11, 2018

ORC

1. R3 Attorney Andrew Duchovny will work with Roger Reinhart to get the letter signed and dated and sent out (email and hard copy).
2. Andrew will notify the company by phone to ensure they received the email letter; we need to be assured they have rec'd the letter prior to external notifications being made.
3. Andrew will notify Joan and Linda from OCGR and share the final signed letter.
4. Andrew/Roger will notify their counterparts in R5.

OCGR:

1. Joan will notify R5 Public Affairs and share the signed letter; the R5 PAD will notify R5's liaison so notifications can be made. Joan will share the letter with the Public Affairs Office at WVDEP. R5 PAD will share the letter with his state counterpart (Ohio).
2. Linda and the R5 Liaison will make notifications to congressional offices, as well as to local officials. They also will share the information with their state counterparts.
3. Joan will notify OPA and the HQ group code of people that the letter has been sent/received and notifications are being made. She will share the final signed letter.
4. OW/OECA will take the signed letter and post it onto a HQ website for transparency and share that website with the regions.
5. If we receive media inquiries, we will coordinate with OPA and R5.

Desk Statement

Protecting public health is EPA's highest priority. To ensure the safety of drinking water, EPA has requested The Chemours Company sample for the perfluorinated compound GenX in public and private water supplies in the vicinity of its Washington Works, West Virginia facility. The agency is working with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency on this request.

Background

Sampling conducted at The Chemours Company's North Carolina facility has identified GenX in the Cape Fear River and in drinking water supplies both near the facility and downstream of the facility. This request for sampling of drinking water wells in the Washington Works area is to be done in conjunction with ongoing sampling for PFOA, a legacy perfluorinated compound. EPA's understanding is that DuPont and Chemours replaced PFOA with the GenX, and the agency is concerned that drinking water wells near the Washington Works facility may be impacted with GenX just as they were by PFOA. PFOA, PFOS and GenX are part of a diverse group of compounds collectively known as "PFAS," which are resistant to heat, water, and oil, persistent in the environment, and resist degradation.

EPA recently launched a cross-agency effort to ensure that communities across the country have the tools they need to address PFAS. EPA's efforts will build on the work the agency has done to establish non-regulatory drinking water health advisories for PFOA and PFOS. Learn more about this effort: https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-cross-agency-effort-address-pfas

Q&As

Why is EPA asking Chemours to monitor for GenX?

According to DuPont and Chemours, in 2013, DuPont discontinued the use and discharge of PFOA at the Washington Works facility. EPA understands that DuPont and Chemours replaced PFOA with the compound GenX. GenX is manufactured at the Chemours Fayetteville, North Carolina facility. Over the past few years, the compound has been identified in the Cape Fear River and several water supplies downstream from that facility. GenX has also been detected in the ground water at the facility. EPA is concerned that drinking water wells in the vicinity of the Washington Works facility may similarly be impacted with GenX.

What are the health impacts of GenX?

The agency's water and research offices are leading a cross-agency work group to:

- Identify a set of near-term actions that EPA will take to help support local communities.
- Enhance coordination with states, tribes and federal partners to provide communities with critical information and tools to address PFAS
- Increase ongoing research efforts to identify new methods for measuring PFAS and filling data gaps.
- Expand proactive communications efforts with states, tribes, partners and the American public about PFAS and their health effects.

Is Chemours required to do this monitoring? What would happen if they say no?

Chemours is already required to sample and test drinking water supplies for PFOA under a number of Safe Drinking Water Act orders that are currently in place. EPA is asking that as part of the next sampling round, or before March 31, 2018, Chemours also test for GenX. If Chemours does not agree to do the requested sampling and testing, EPA will evaluate next steps.

Is discharging GenX a violation of the order that's currently in place for the facility?

The existing SDWA Order only applies to PFOA and does not address GenX-EPA has in place for GenX a TSCA Consent Order issued to DuPont/Chemours, which is national in scope. This order required a 99 percent removal/capture/destruction of GenX release. EPA is monitoring compliance at the Fayetteville facility, including compliance with the TSCA Consent Order.

Joan T. Schafer, Senior Advisor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 3 Office of Communications and Government Relations
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-5143 (ph)
215-814-5102