



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



C. HEIDI GREETHER
DIRECTOR

December 4, 2017

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Dave Latchana
Wolverine World Wide, Inc.
9341 Courtland Drive, NE
Rockford, Michigan 49351

Dear Mr. Latchana:

SUBJECT: Wolverine World Wide, Inc. (WWW), PFAS Response
Identification and Investigation of Wolven Street Area
Kent County, Michigan

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) received information from the public indicating that the neighborhoods west of Wolven Street may have received WWW lime waste containing Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) used as a soil amendment in the 1960s. During a DEQ evaluation of the 1965 historical aerial photos for the Wolven area, the DEQ noticed a gravel pit that indicated a potential disposal location within a half mile of the main House Street disposal. In addition, the DEQ received two independently conducted residential drinking water test results that exceeded 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and/or Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).

On November 6, 2017, the DEQ requested that WWW take the following actions regarding the Wolven Street area:

1. Sample and analyze drinking water at all potential receptor locations;
2. Provide an alternative water source to property owners/tenants where sampling has occurred; and
3. Provide the DEQ with a Work Plan for a remedial investigation and proposed remedy for managing WWW-generated waste material by November 20, 2017.

The DEQ met with the residents of Wellington Ridge and the Wolven area in a neighborhood meeting on the evening of November 8, 2017, hosted by Algoma Township, at which time they were notified that WWW had agreed to sample their neighborhood. WWW submitted the Wolven Area Residential Sampling Work Plan on November 8, 2017, and began delivering bottled water and arranging sampling for the residential wells on November 13, 2017.

On December 1, 2017, the DEQ received the first set of the Wolven area residential drinking water results, which show concentrations of PFOA and PFOS ranging from non-detect to 9,500 ppt. The United States Environmental Protection Agency's Lifetime Health Advisory Level for PFOA and PFOS is 70 ppt combined. The DEQ is requesting that WWW take measures to mitigate potential public health risks and assess this site by performing the following response activities:

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- Develop a work plan by December 13, 2017, to conduct a source area investigation in the proximity of the former gravel pit. The work plan should include a full aerial photo review, soil sampling, vertical aquifer sampling, installation of monitoring wells to provide for groundwater flow direction, and the development of cross sections to fully delineate the vertical and horizontal extent of the PFAS impacts to the aquifer.
- Continue to supply bottled water until a long-term reliable alternate water supply can be provided.
- Sample and analyze drinking water at all potential receptor locations by expanding the residential sampling to include the area west of US 131 and east of Jewell (see enclosed map).

If you have any questions or concerns related to this request, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Susan Leeming
External Relations Deputy Director
517-284-6715

Enclosure

cc/enc: Mr. Kevin Green, Algoma Township Supervisor
Mr. Scott Hiipakka, Governor's Office
Ms. Sara Simmonds, Kent County Health Department
Ms. Polly Synk, Department of Attorney General
Ms. C. Heidi Grether, Director, DEQ
Mr. Michael McClellan, Environment Deputy Director, DEQ
Mr. Nate Zimmer, DEQ
Ms. Kathy Shirey, DEQ
Mr. David O'Donnell, DEQ
Ms. Abigail Hendershott, DEQ



Derived from Google Maps

Expansion of Wellington Ridge Sampling also showing Jewell Sampling Area and Woven-Wellington Sampling Area West of Rockford MI


Jewell Sampling Area


Wolven West Sampling Area


Woven-Wellington Sampling Area



North

Updated by the MDEQ-RRD-GR 12/4/2017