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To: DNRSE::MCCUTG, DNRSE::SRIDHL, DNRSE::KAZMIR, DNRSE::GAYANS, DNRSE::DANTUJ, DNRSE::WOLSK  
CC: CZARKC, FEENEJ, SCHAVS, SCHMIJA, EBERSW  
Subj: Update on Town of Grafton Private Well Contamination

On April 17, 1997 Art Harrington, Attorney for 10 Town of Grafton residents with contaminated wells, called to summarize a proposal the affected residents are making to the Village of Grafton and the Town of Grafton. The proposed agreement would include the following provisions:

- 1) the Village would make available connection to its water main to the affected residents with contaminated wells;
- 2) the Town would be the contracting party with the Village and would administer connection and distribution of the water system;
- 3) the affected residents would contribute \$ 60,00 for capital costs for the water main and would release the Town and Village from property damage claims; and
- 4) the affected homeowners need positive response from the Village and Town by 5:00 p.m. on Tues. Apr. 22 and need the water system hooked up by Aug. 1, 1997.

Harrington explained that this proposed settlement offer will be discussed at the Village of Grafton's board meeting on April 21, 1997. Harrington also explained, as discussed in a April 14, 1997 meeting with Village and Town of Grafton officials, town residents, Division of Health, DNR and Senator Panzer's office, that the Hospels have deferred installation of a treatment system until Wed. April 23, 1997 to preserve the option of EPA relief.

On Wed. April 23, 1997, Walt Ebersohl called Harrington to get a status report on negotiations between the Village and Town in response to the settlement offer. Harrington said that the Village is having a special meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thurs. Apr. 24 to evaluate the settlement offer. Harrington said that he would extend his clients' offer to 12:00 p.m. on Fri. Apr. 25. Harrington also told Ebersohl that Al Hospel (Town of Grafton resident who has an inhalation hazard due to a concentration of 18 ppb vinyl chloride in the Hospel's well) would be calling about installation of the treatment system for vinyl chloride.

On Wed. April 23, Sharon Schaver, Chad Czarkowski, John Feeney and Walt Ebersohl called Al Hospel to explain that the Department needed to know whether the Village and Town could reach agreement on extension of a water main from the Village to the affected town residents in order to determine whether to ask EPA to step into the project. If the Village and Town agree to extend a water main to the affected residents, than DNR would not need to bring EPA into the process. If the Village and Town are unable to reach agreement on extension of a water main, than the DNR would likely ask EPA to become involved in the project. If agreement can not be reached, DNR would prefer to have EPA install the treatment system in order to preserve the option of EPA relief.

Note: EPA's ability to assist in extending a water main is contingent upon contaminant levels in wells being above the EPA removal action levels. Currently the Hospel well is the only well where contaminant levels are above the EPA action levels. If DNR puts in the treatment system, than EPA involvement may be jeopardized (per discussions with Ken Thiesen and Rick Karl at EPA).

DNR representatives explained to Hospel that the Department needed to wait until Friday afternoon (deadline for considering the Harrington offer) to decide if DNR would install the Hospel's treatment sytem or EPA would be asked to install the treatment system. However, SER representatives feel strongly that we must move ahead on Fri. Apr. 25 with installation of the

reatment system for the Hospels.

On Wednesday Apr. 23, Sharon Schaver and Walt Ebersohl contacted Town of Grafton Engineer, Rick Schmidt to find out if the Town preferred to bring EPA into the project or to attempt to find a solution without EPA involvement. Schmidt did not feel he could provide an official position for the Town. Schaver and Ebersohl were unable to reach Lester Bartel, Town Chairman.

On Thursday, Apr. 24, Ebersohl contacted Darrell Hofland, Village of Grafton administrator. Ebersohl offered to meet with the Village prior to the Thursday evening meeting to evaluate Harrington's offer on behalf of his clients, in order to answer any questions or concerns. Ebersohl also explained that DNR is concerned that Harrington's proposal covers his clients only and not other residents with contaminated wells in the Town of Grafton. Ebersohl asked Hofland if the Village of Grafton was concerned about EPA being involved in the project to resolve well contamination problems. Hofland said he could not give an official answer to this question but was concerned that EPA involvement may mean a loss of local control in resolving the water problem. Ebersohl did not hear back from Hofland regarding Ebersohl's offer to meet with Village officials.