

From: MILWA::EBERSW "WALT EBERSOHL - (414) 961-2713" 27-APR-1997 11:27:30.68
To: DNRSE::MCCUTG, DNRSE::SRIDL, DNRSE::KAZMIR, DNRSE::GAYANS, DNRSE::DANTUJ, DNRSE::WOLSK
CC: CZARKC, FEENEJ, SCHAVS, SCHMIJA, EBERSW
Subj: Another Update on Town of Grafton Private Well Contamination

On Friday, April 25, Walt Ebersohl spoke with Art Harrington, Attorney who is representing 10 Town of Grafton residents with contaminated drinking wells. Harrington said that he had not been successful in negotiating a successful agreement for his clients with the Village of Grafton and Town of Grafton for provision of drinking water from the Village. Harrington said that he had talked to Paul Maloy, Village attorney and that Harrington would be speaking with Buck Sweeney (sp?), an attorney now representing the Village. Harrington said that he also would be talking to Mike Morse, Town of Grafton Attorney. Harrington said that he had arranged a meeting with Ken Thiesen, U.S. EPA for 10:00 a.m. on Mon. April 28 and some of the clients Harrington represents. Harrington invited DNR to the meeting. Harrington said that he was considering asking EPA in to assist with provision of water to Harrington's clients if negotiations with the Village and Town are unsuccessful.

In the afternoon of Fri. Apr. 25, Harrington called Ebersohl to explain that Harrington was attempting to arrange an additional meeting on Monday Apr. 28 that would involve Village and Town of Grafton officials as well as EPA and some of the Town of Grafton residents. At the end of the work day on Fri. Apr. 25 this second meeting had not been finalized but is proposed for 2:00 p.m. on Mon. Apr. 28.

Later in the afternoon on Fri. Apr. 25, Sharon Schaver, Chad Czarkowski, John Feeney and Walt Ebersohl contacted Ken Thiesen, U.S. EPA to find out under what circumstances EPA would get involved in the Town of Grafton well contamination project. Thiesen said that EPA would prefer to enter the project after an invitation by WDNR but could come in by invitation from the Town of Grafton. Thiesen reiterated, as Thiesen and Rick Karl have explained earlier, that it would be very difficult for EPA to become involved in this project if WDNR installs a treatment system at the Hospel residence. Currently, the treatment system ordered by DNR from North American Aqua resides in Appleton; it was shipped from Michigan. DNR has postponed installation of the treatment per a request by Art Harrington and his Town of Grafton clients at a 4/15/97 meeting at the Village of Grafton. Harrington requested this delay in installation of the treatment system to preserve the option of EPA involvement if the settlement offer Harrington made on behalf of the Town residents to the Village and Town of Grafton is unsuccessful.

Ebersohl asked Thiesen whether EPA could install the treatment system DNR has purchased from North American Aqua if EPA became involved in the project. Thiesen said EPA would try to use the DNR's treatment system (Note: using the system DNR has already ordered could save some time rather than having EPA order another unit from North American Aqua). Thiesen explained what EPA would do if EPA became involved in the project. Thiesen said that EPA would visit the area, confirm samples already taken by the DNR and collect a few additional samples, talk to residents and meet with Village and Town officials. After responding to remaining immediate health problems (bottled water has been supplied to 4 Town of Grafton households by the DNR but the inhalation hazard at the Hospels' residence due to 18 ppb vinyl chloride has not yet been addressed by installation of the treatment system). Once immediate health threats had been addressed, Thiesen said that EPA would try to get agreements with the Village and Town for provision of water to town residents.

At the end of the day on Friday April 25, 1997, Ebersohl received a voice mail message from Al Hospel. Mr. Hospel, is extremely anxious to have the treatment system installed at his residence, but wanted to wait until the meeting with EPA