



January 25, 2023

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway  
City of Madison  
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., #403  
Madison, WI 53703

Mike Kirchner  
Director of Engineering  
Dane County Regional Airport  
4000 International Lane  
Madison, WI 53704

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Dunlap  
Wisconsin Air National Guard  
115CES/CC  
Dane County Regional Airport  
3110 Mitchell Street  
Madison, WI 53704-2529

Subject: Former Fire Training Areas near Darwin Road and Pearson Street, Madison, and letter from Kim Jones of the Dane County Airport (BRRTs No. 02-13-583366)

Dear Mayor Rhodes-Conway, Director Kirchner, and Lt. Col. Dunlap:

This letter is in regard to the former fire training areas near Darwin Road and Pearson Street located on property within the Dane County Airport for which you are the responsible parties (RPs).

Thank you for the positive actions taken by the RPs thus far, including:

- the ongoing site investigation by the National Guard Bureau on behalf of the Wisconsin Air National Guard Bureau (WANG) that will identify the degree and extent of PFAS contamination from activities on the WANG base.
- Dane County and WANG's joint study of the potential of biological processes to degrade PFAS contaminants.
- Dane County's current and ongoing project to repair storm water lines within the airport boundaries to reduce the volume of PFAS contaminated groundwater from entering the lines and discharging to surface water.
- the City of Madison's efforts to post signage along Starkweather Creek downstream of the airport that provides information on limiting exposure to PFAS by creek users and their pets.

On September 7, 2022, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received a letter from Kimberly Jones, Director of the Dane County Airport, summarizing the ongoing efforts taken by WANG, Dane County, and the City of Madison to address PFAS contamination from the Airport property. As noted in prior communications between the RPs and the DNR, investigative actions are also needed to determine the degree and extent of PFAS contamination from the former fire training areas located near Darwin Road and Pearson Street. Previous sampling at these locations clearly indicates that PFAS contamination is present in both soil and groundwater at these locations.

On January 4, 2023, during a technical meeting, Dane County indicated that it would like to do an investigation involving initial groundwater sampling at the former fire training area at Darwin Road. The DNR understands you are requesting money for this project and that you have not secured the funds yet. If approved, the DNR would be amenable to meeting with you on site to discuss potential proposed workplans. In addition, the DNR would like to remind you that in addition to the Darwin Road site, the Pearson Street location also requires an ch. NR 716, Wis. Adm. Code compliant workplan for investigating the degree and extent of PFAS contamination. The deadline for submitting these workplans is 60 days from the date of this letter, March 26, 2023. If you will be unable to meet this deadline due to the funding request timeframe, please contact the DNR.

If you have questions regarding next steps, please contact Steve Ales at 608-400-9187 or [stephenm.ales@wisconsin.gov](mailto:stephenm.ales@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,



Issac A. Ross  
RR Regional Supervisor  
South Central Region  
Fitchburg Service Center – Fitchburg, WI

Cc: Kim Jones – Director, Dane County Airport  
Brynn Bemis – City of Madison  
Carrie Springer – Dane County Executive Office  
Mark Aquino – DNR, South Central Region  
Craig Sparks – DNR, Bureau of Legal Services  
Christine Sieger – DNR, Remediation & Redevelopment