



July 6, 2021

Mr. Robert Fuller  
WRR Environmental Service Co  
5200 Ryder Rd.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

**RE: Detection of PFAS in monitoring wells**

Dear Mr. Fuller,

Today I received a message from Sonja Leenhouts the County's Risk Manager who you spoke with on the phone on July 1, 2021, concerning the meeting that you attended on June 30, 2021, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and representatives from the City/County Health Department concerning the detection of PFAS in the monitoring wells that are located on WRR Environmental ("WRR") property and in the Lowes Creek County Park. My understanding is that you requested that the county to give WRR Environmental Services direction as to what it should do with regards to this matter.

Please understand that Eau Claire County is not a regulatory agency that has authority with regards to groundwater contamination, or health hazards that result from groundwater contamination. That role, by virtue of state statutes and state administrative code lies with the WDNR, and if it is determined that there is a potential health hazard then with the State Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Eau Claire City-County Health Department. I believe that these agencies will ultimately be working with and giving guidance or direction to WRR on how it should respond to this problem. It is my understanding that first they are directing that more testing be completed to get a better idea of the extent of the contamination, i.e., the types of PFAS, the volume of PFAS and areas contaminated. Once that is completed and the results are known, I would assume that they will be working with WRR to create a plan for moving forward.

As you know, Eau Claire County owns Lowes Creek County Park which is adjacent to the WRR facility, and it along with WRR property has been identified through initial testing as having PFAS present in the soil and/or groundwater. As such, for this reason and for the reasons stated above, it would not be appropriate for Eau Claire County to advise WRR what if anything it should do with regards to this matter, and we decline to do so at this time. What we can hope for is that WRR will fully cooperate with the regulatory agencies by following their recommendations for testing to identify the full extent of the contamination, and then cooperating with those agencies with the development and implementation of a plan for mitigation and/or remediation as necessary, and as determined by those agencies. Eau Claire County on an ongoing basis plans to cooperate with these agencies will continue to assess our role in this matter as more information becomes available.



We appreciate the fact that you have reached out to the county to request our advice. However, and because the expertise and regulatory authority for this situation is with the state agencies, we would request that WRR continue to work with and cooperate with those agencies.

Please feel free to contact myself, Sonja Leenhouts or Corporation Counsel Tim Sullivan if you have any questions.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathryn Schauf".

Kathryn Schauf

Eau Claire County Administrator

CC: Tim Sullivan – Eau Claire County Corporation Counsel  
Sonja Leenhouts – Eau Claire County Risk Manager  
Elizabeth Giese - Eau Claire City-County Health Department Director  
Audrey Boerner – Eau Claire City-County Health Department  
Matt Steinbach - Eau Claire City-County Health Department  
Candace Sykora - WDNR