

PFAS Update July 11, 2023.

Lee Donahue, Supervisor 2 Health, Education and Welfare

On June 15<sup>th</sup> Margaret Larson and I testified before the Environmental committee chair Rep. Loren Oldenburg (and committee members) regarding Assembly bill 312 a companion bill to SB 312. We asked the committee take our concerns about the Bill into consideration before moving the Bill forward to the Assembly floor. Our concerns focused on focus on Municipal water systems and not private well owners who represent 1/3 of the water users in the State. The bill was also written in a way which undermines the Spills Law which gives the DNR authority to hold responsible parties accountable for contamination.

Last week Gov. Evers signed a state budget which approved the creation of a \$125 million dollar PFAS trust to be used to help fund remediation projects in the state. However, legislation discussing the ways that money can be accessed by impacted communities is still in flux.

The Senate has made some modifications to the original SB 312, however edits to the Spills Law portion of the bill are still being crafted. The 20 other individuals and environmental organizations who testified at that hearing are working on further edits which would uphold the Spills Law. We are working directly with the authors of this bill and their staff. Some sections could hinder Campbell (and other private well communities) from having equal standing among municipalities seeking state grants and funding. It's critical that we get this right.

Your legislators must hear from you to act upon your input. Otherwise, I am just one voice in the crowd among 120 other municipalities seeking funding for PFAS contamination. I urge everyone to contact their state and federal legislators expressing concern about PFAS remediation funding.

Mike Davy is working on the Site Investigation Report for the test well which must be submitted to the DNR. Mike met with the DNR and Public Service Commission recently to talk about developing a municipal water system for Campbell.

Campbell has signed the agreement with UW-Madison to commence work on our ground water study – we are moving forward with that project.

I thank everyone who is using the filter disposal program to keep PFAS contaminated filters out of our waste stream. This is an important protection for our air, soil and water. The State of Wisconsin is interested in our pilot program and emulating elsewhere in the state.

Lastly, Campbell, the County health department and the DNR are in discussions about setting well drilling protocols to protect the Mt. Simon aquifer.