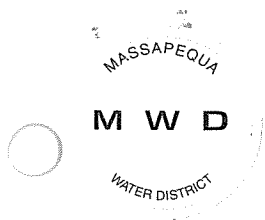


Massapequa Water District

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Commissioners
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September 14, 2011

Certified Mail Return Receipt

Commissioner Joseph Martens
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-0001

Re: Navy Optimization Report Conference Call

Dear Commissioner Martens:

As you may be aware a conference call concerning the Bethpage Groundwater Plume "Navy Optimization Report" was held on September 1, 2011. The main purpose of the conference call was to review the NAVFAC Optimization Report Draft Schedule that was developed by your Department. Therefore we believe it is appropriate that this letter be directed to you.

Originally your Department made a commitment to complete the schedule by July 15, 2011. However it was issued on September 1, 2011. Not only was this document 47 days late, we had minimal time to review prior to the Senator Schumer committee conference call. Furthermore the conference call was abruptly concluded without an opportunity to ask relevant questions regarding the schedule. Accordingly we have formulated the following questions and concerns related to the schedule. For reference purposes we will use the numbering system providing in the schedule.

- 1. Full Containment Evaluation:** The schedule indicates that the Navy will be preparing the evaluation. It was confirmed that the Navy and their consultant Tetra-Tech will be performing the evaluation. We believe that this is a serious conflict since the Navy has gone on the record stating that full plume containment is not feasible. How can we be assured that the evaluation will be comprehensive and impartial? The Massapequa Water District believes that we have firmly made our case that there are less expensive and more effective means of plume containment than the Navy has implemented with the blessing of the DEC throughout this process. Our position has not changed for 16 years. We do not and will not accept wellhead treatment of this contaminated plume entering our water supply wells. Regarding schedules, over the past 16 years how far has this plume been allowed to travel? We know what has impacted Bethpage again,

requiring plant process upgrades, and both South Farmingdale and Aqua now require wellhead treatment. The fact of the matter is there is no schedule to hold the PRPs to and that is primarily one of the problems with your department's oversight. This is an open-ended non-time-barred process that guarantees all public's water supply wells will be mandated into wellhead treatment.

2. Additional Vertical Profile Borings, a.East, b.West, c.South:

2a. East Boundary / Park Containment OU-3 – The schedule indicates that this will be part of the OU3 PRAP/ROD. This is a critical task that should have been completed during the FS. During the conference call it was indicated that the task would be completed by January 1, 2012. If the OU3 PRAP / ROD is issued before this task is completed then the FS must be deemed to be incomplete.

2b. West Boundary / ONCT Deeper Borings OU-2 – The schedule indicates that the Navy will start this task by April 1, 2012. Why is this critical task being delayed? Based upon either an open service agreement, or declaration of a health emergency this task could be and should be completed by January 15, 2012.

6. Modify Pumping Regimen of Public Supply Wells: The note in the schedule indicates this would constitute operating the public water supply wells as remediation systems which would be contrary to DOH policy. The actions (or lack thereof) by your Department, Grumman and Navy have placed public water supply wells with wellhead treatment into the strategic role of plume remediation. The OU3 FS clearly recognizes the critical need to operate Bethpage Plant 4 as a means to reduce plume mass. The statement and note does not make any sense. We would greatly appreciate it if the New York State Health Department would strongly advocate full plume containment alternatives as that is consistent with the law, minimizing health risks and consistent with their own policies regarding a sole source aquifer at the least.

8. Improved Coordination of Data Collection & Sharing **b. Water District(s) Data with DEC to PRPs:** We have been providing data as is required by your very own department regarding pump and consumption records consistent with the DEC policies. Following the September 27, 2010 Senator Schumer meeting in our office the suppliers affected by the Grumman/Navy plume, we were all requested to supply records in a digital format and we all complied immediately. In the spirit of continued cooperation and as needed we will be more than pleased to provide data on an ongoing basis. Please provide more details as to the type of data, time interval and format that is required.

Note 1 -The establishment of this schedule does not necessarily obligate Northrop Grumman and/or the Navy to implement a particular task: We are perplexed by this note and would expect that our regulators would support measures that would provide expedited full plume containment. Based upon all of the recent documentation supporting the Massapequa Water District position we would expect that both the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York State Department of Health would immediately demand full containment and cleanup of the plume.

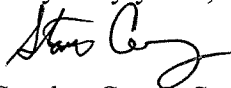
Without more management oversight by your Department it is apparent that this method will be allowed to continue to eventually impact all 25 water supply wells and let us not forget the Great South Bay. There isn't anyone familiar with the business of sole source aquifer plume containment, plume treatment and injection, boring's, testing, and well

drilling that would not agree that the implementation of the Massapequa Water District plan would take less than 18 months for installation of the recovery treatment system. Let us remember we are dealing with the Grumman Corp. that helped put a man on the moon in 10 years and built the LEM that saved the Apollo 13 astronauts. This contaminated plume has now traveled in your care, custody and control for 25 years. Would this have been tolerated by NASA which is coincidentally also part of this contamination process?

We would also like to repeat our offer to assist with expediting site access to facilitate vertical profile boring and monitoring well drilling operations. We have the ability to work with local government officials to help expedite the permitting and site access process.

Please feel free to contact Commissioner John Caruso at 516-459-7276 if you should have any questions. We look forward to your response.

Very truly yours,



Stanley Carey, Superintendent

cc: Deputy Commissioner Leff
Senator Charles Schumer
State Senator Fuschillo
Assemblyman Joseph Saladino
Howard A. Freed, M.D. – NYSDOH
Susan King, Nassau County DOH