



January 31, 2014

Natalie E. Tennant
West Virginia Secretary of State
Building 1, Suite 157-K
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Secretary Tennant:

I was forwarded a copy of your letter dated January 17, 2014, regarding your request to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to take the lead in creating a website. There is one critical piece of the information you describe for which CDC/ATSDR is the primary source: information about the methodology used to determine screening levels of MCHM in the water supply

I am pleased to report on January 17, 2014, CDC posted information regarding: what is MCHM, what is the acceptable level of MCHM in drinking water, how was the 1 ppm level calculated, what studies were used in calculating the 1 ppm recommendation, and links to additional resources such as the West Virginia Governor's State Emergency Updates at this website link: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/chemical/MCHM/westvirginia2014/index.asp>.

A copy of your letter has been shared with Secretary Karen Bowling and Commissioner Letitia Tierney. We have been working closely with them regarding development of public health information. To that end, we collaborated with them to issue a media advisory on January 17, 2014. <http://www.dhsem.wv.gov/Documents/Press%20Release-%20CDC%20provides%20information%20regarding%20MCHM%201-17-14.pdf>

The West Virginia Governor's State Emergency Updates at the following website link: <http://www.governor.wv.gov/Pages/State-of-Emergency.aspx> continues to be the main source of information regarding local water supply guidance.

CDC will continue to work the State of West Virginia to support urgent requests and to provide public health information.

Sincerely,

Tanja Popovic, MD, PhD, F(AAM), AM(AAFS)
Acting Director
National Center for Environmental Health and
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention