

January 8, 2018

Badger RAB Members Call for Reinstatement of Residential Well Testing for Family in Path of Badger Contamination

TO: U.S. Army, WDNR, EPA and local, state and federal government representatives

FROM: Badger Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Stakeholder Members, as noted below

BACKGROUND:

At the November 30, 2017 public meeting in Prairie du Sac, U.S. Army representatives stated that the Badger RAB was never disbanded and that we still have standing as a formal RAB. As a reference, please see the attached membership list (TYPED names only are relevant), which was provided to us by the U.S. Army. This particular list is from the July 2017 meeting.

As noted in our attached bylaws, it is our duty as RAB members to provide recommendations about environmental restoration at Badger to the regulated and regulating entities.

Prior to the current action, both the WDNR (Jason Lowery) and the U.S. Army (Mike Sitton) were asked to reinstate regular testing of Ron Lins' drinking water well and both entities have flatly declined. For some time now, his family's well has been completely dropped from any testing by Army.

Representatives of the Badger RAB subsequently asked Ron to put in writing why he believes that his drinking water well should be regularly tested for contaminants from Badger. On December 13, 2017, Ron emailed us the following:

To whom it may concern; My name is Ronald Lins. I live on Cty Rd Z south of BAAP and the plume from the propellant burning grounds flows under my farm. I am the co-chair of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) since it was formed. There are three reasons why I feel that my private residential well should be tested annually by the Army. The first reason is that my well is located in the propellant burning ground plume. It is a 280 ft well cased into bedrock with the drinking water coming from the bedrock aquifer and that is why the water has tested clean in the past. The sentinel monitoring wells (swn9103D and swn9103E) are located downgradient from my well 1300 feet away. If some contaminants reach my well it could take three years to reach these monitoring wells. The second reason is that the sand and gravel aquifer that my well is cased thru is contaminated with several different chemicals that exceed the drinking standards. My well is 46 years old and it is possible that the integrity of the casing could be suspect and leaking water from the contaminated aquifer. The only way to know for sure is to test the water. The third reason is that my father died at 63 years of age and his well was one of the three contaminated wells that were replaced by the army. Testing my well is the right thing to do. Thank you. Ron

RAB ACTION:

The following members of the Badger Restoration Advisory Board offer their formal support for both the above statement and the immediate reinstatement of regular monitoring of the drinking water well for the Ron Lins family by the U.S. Army at Badger Army Ammunition Plant:

Richard Anderson, At Large Member

Judy Ashford, Sauk County Board

Chris Hanson, At Large Member

Michele Hopp, Village of Merrimac

Mary Jane Koch, At Large Member

Ken Lins, At Large Member

Laura Olah, Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger

Mary Carol Solum, At Large Member

William T. Stehling, At Large Member

William F. Wenzel, Village of Prairie du Sac

Charlie Wilhelm, At Large Member

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

To Whom It May Concern;

I am writing this in support of reinstating routine testing of the Ron Lins family domestic well near the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP). Based on a review of the location of this well from public data, it lies within the contamination plume area from the propellant burning ground area of the BAAP. Further, according to the Lins family, their well is 46 years old. In my 35 years of experience with groundwater hydrology and regulation of oil & gas wells, loss of casing integrity is one of the most common causes of well contamination and vertical commingling between geologic units.

Therefore, I recommend that the appropriate authorities take action to reinstate the routine sampling of the Lins family well for the constituents known to be in the propellant burning ground plume. This should be done on a regular basis, but no less than annually.

Sincerely,

Chris Hanson

Member At Large, BAAP RAB

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