



WISCONSIN STATE SENATE
DAVE HANSEN
SENATOR – 30TH DISTRICT

State Capitol P.O. Box 7882 Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882 Phone: (608) 266-5670

January 7, 2020

Andrea Palm
Secretary-Designee
Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street
Madison, WI

Dear Secretary Palm,

As you know constituents in my district who live in the Town of Peshtigo, City of Marinette and surrounding area are very concerned about their health in light of the PFAS contamination crisis caused by JCI/Tyco's use of the toxic compounds at their facilities in Marinette and the City of Peshtigo.

While the DNR is working to hold JCI/Tyco accountable for the cleanup of the toxic compounds they put in the environment, little has been done to help my constituents learn how their own health may have been impacted. I believe they have a right to know, at the very least, what levels of PFAS are in bodies.

These compounds are referred to as forever chemicals because once they enter the environment or a person's body they don't break down. They have also been linked to liver damage, thyroid disease, decreased fertility, high cholesterol, obesity, hormone suppression and cancer.

My constituents and the people who live in the surrounding area deserve to know whether their or their children's health is at risk and they should not have to pay out of their own pockets to find out.

For these reasons I am asking the Department of Health Services to do two things: (1) offer and provide blood tests for those people who live in or near the contaminated areas; and (2) conduct a cancer cluster assessment of residents and their children, who may have been exposed to PFAS growing up in the Marinette and Peshtigo areas. Michigan has provided similar tests so their residents can find if they have levels of PFAS higher than the national average and we should be offering the same testing here in Wisconsin. Once people have that information they can choose how to use it and whether to seek additional medical diagnosis or treatment.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Dave Hansen
State Senator

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