

July 1, 2016

Via Email and Regular Mail

Ron Miner
Superintendent
Merrimack Village District
2 Greens Pond Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054
(ron.miner@mvdwater.org)

Re: Merrimack Village District Wells 4 and 5

Dear Mr. Miner:

On behalf of Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corporation (“SGPP”), I write in response to the Merrimack Village District’s (“MVD”) request that SGPP enter into a General Services Agreement (“Agreement”) with the MVD and Underwood Engineers (“Underwood”) pursuant to which SGPP would pay for Underwood to provide various engineering services related to the design and installation of a treatment system to address perfluorinated compounds (“PFCs”) in MVD Wells 4 and 5 (the “Wells”). This letter also responds to Commissioner Burack’s letter to Mr. Edward Canning of SGPP dated June 13, 2016 regarding the Wells.

SGPP takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously. As you know, SGPP has been working cooperatively and actively with the State of New Hampshire and other potentially impacted parties to investigate and respond to the presence of perfluorooctanoic acid (“PFOA”) in the vicinity of SGPP’s Merrimack facility. However, based on the information available to date, SGPP does not believe that it is responsible for the PFCs detected in the Wells. Accordingly, SGPP declines to enter into the Agreement at this time

The currently available information reviewed by SGPP and its experts indicates that the Longa Landfill, not the Merrimack facility, is the likely source of the PFCs in the Wells. Groundwater sampling by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (“NHDES”) found elevated levels of PFOA and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (“PFOS”) both in monitoring wells at the Landfill and in monitoring wells located between the Landfill and the Wells. Moreover, a 2004 study prepared by Emery and Garrett in connection with the development of the Source Water Protection Area for the Wells demonstrated that groundwater from the northern portion of the Landfill flows towards the Wells. The Emery and Garrett report also noted that the Wells draw the majority of their water from the direction of the Landfill

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because the aquifer is more permeable in that area. Thus, it appears that the PFCs detected in the Wells are primarily, if not entirely, coming from the Landfill.

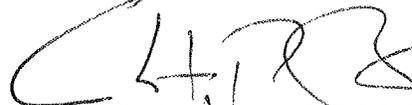
It is beyond dispute that the PFCs in the Landfill are not from SGPP's operations at the Merrimack facility. SGPP's predecessor, ChemFab, did not begin operations at the Merrimack Facility until 1984, by which time the Landfill had been closed for three years.

Although SGPP is not prepared to enter into the Agreement at this time for the reasons set forth above, it recognizes the MVD's concerns and, as a member of the Merrimack community, would like to assist the MVD. If MVD or NHDES have other information which you believe SGPP should take into consideration, please forward this information to my attention. Moreover, we would be happy to set a date and time for a call to discuss these issues in more detail.

GAC filtration is a proven treatment technology for this type of material. As you know, SGPP has been involved in the engineering and installation of a temporary and permanent GAC filtration system in the Village of Hoosick Falls. The temporary system has resulted in the complete removal of PFOA from the municipal water. If MVD could use our experience and technical assistance, please let us know.

Feel free to call me at your convenience if you have any questions or would like to further discuss this letter. I hope to hear from you soon.

Very truly yours,



CHRISTOPHER R. GIBSON

cc: Thomas S. Burack, Commssioner (via e-mail)
Clark Freise, NHDES (via e-mail)
Edward J. Canning, SGPP (via e-mail)