

June 9, 2017

Ms. Susan Malone, Director  
PA Department of Environmental Protection  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745

**Re: Partial Lead Service Line Replacements**

Director Malone:

This letter serves as formal notification that, as of June 2, 2017, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) has suspended partial lead service line replacements as part of its lead service line replacement program. Our attorney Mr. David Ries notified your Mr. John Herman via phone last Friday June 2, 2017 of this decision.

Until further notice, PWSA will only conduct partial service line replacements (to the public side of the line) during emergency repairs or in cases of service line leaks. Because of the urgent nature of these repairs, a 45-day notice, as required per 25 PA Code §109.1107(d)(4)(i), will not be provided. However, general information and water use instructions, flushing instructions, a 72-hour post-construction sample bottle, as well as a pitcher filter with six months of filters, will be provided.

The Authority recognizes its obligation to annually remove 7% of the lead service lines in its inventory to comply with 25 PA Code §109.1107(d)(2). Pursuant to 25 PA Code §109.1107(d)(2). PWSA is optimizing its lead line research so as to locate the lead service lines that need replacement. From recent statistics of our lead lines, PWSA may be able to continue to replace the public side of the service lines that connect to a non-lead private service line.

As a part of the lead service line replacement process, PWSA has asked residents to collect a water sample within 72-hours after the partial replacement. To date, PWSA has received 18 results. Eleven of those eighteen lead test samples taken from homes within 72-hours of partial lead line replacements indicate elevated levels of lead. PWSA is gathering data to determine the accuracy of these lead test results through phone calls and in-home visits. In addition, customer feedback has led PWSA to believe that those receiving partial lead line replacements may not have followed PWSA guidance with respect to protective measures such as post-construction flushing and filtering drinking water using the provided NSF-certified water filter.

With an abundance of caution to protect Pittsburgh's residents, PWSA is reassessing its lead program to determine how it may achieve LCR requirements without performing partial lead service line replacements. At this time, PWSA is also evaluating replacement of the private residence side of the service line, how it can be funded and implemented under the Municipal Authorities Act.

We look forward to formalizing our approach through a consent order between parties in the coming days. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Weimar, P.E., BCEE  
Interim Executive Director  
Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority

CC: Mr. Ronald O. Schwartz, Deputy Director, PADEP