

Massapequa Water District

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Commissioners

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February 7, 2018

Commissioner Basil Seggos New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, New York 12233-0001

Re:

Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant Groundwater Contamination Plume RE108 Hotspot

Dear Commissioner Seggos:

We write to you as a continuation of our serious concern with regard to the lack of progress by the Navy and the irreversible, detrimental impact the lack of progress is having on our sole source aquifer and the threat to the drinking water quality of the Massapequa Water District. We have just received and reviewed the January 2018 report provided by the Navy entitled, "2017 OU2 Groundwater Investigation RE137 (VPB171) Installation Report" and feel compelled to sound the alarm once again. Specifically, we call your attention to the following:

- There was absolutely "zero" acceptable sampling and analysis for 1,4 Dioxane. With the extremely high level of sensitivity and awareness, the tables provided in the report indicate a non-detection value of 100 ug/l. How is this even possible? The Navy using a detection limit of 100 ug/l for 1,4 Dioxane? This is unacceptable to us, and we would expect this is unacceptable to you.
- This well location was selected as the "leading edge" of the 1,000 ug/l hotspot concentration contour and is only about 350 feet north of Hempstead Turnpike. The well exhibited contamination concentrations as high as 1,970 ug/l TCE during testing in April 2017. The well screen for this well is 115 feet long, from 630 to 745 feet bgs. Recognizing that groundwater flow into the well screen will vary along its length based on hydrogeologic variations, in essence 1,970 ug/l TCE is the "average" concentration along that 115-foot depth. The geology is not homogeneous, so within that geologic section there are likely TCE concentrations significantly higher than 1,970 ug/l. In fact, the results from the VPB that prompted this extraction well (VPB-171), 3,600 ug/l TCE was detected at about 700 feet deep in November 2016. Clearly, the leading edge of the 1,000 ug/l hotspot is significantly further downgradient than is being currently represented and planned upon. The hotspot needs to be re-defined.
- We are extremely concerned with regard to this misunderstanding of the actual hotspot and the resulting continued movement of the plume due to time delay. We have no reassurance

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that the current plan, which includes at some point an extraction well at RE137 and additional wells at locations south of Hempstead Turnpike to completely capture and remediate the hotspot. The extraction well locations and anticipated capture zones need to be reassessed to ensure the entire hotspot will be captured and treated.

We ask that your office require the Navy to reassess its plan and approach to fully capture and remediate the hotspot. Our understanding of the current plan, which may have changed and we are unaware, leads us to believe that the Navy will have to take additional steps to achieve its responsibility in this regard.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Feel free to contact our Superintendent, Stanley Carey, if you should have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Massapequa Water District Board of Commissioners

Cc: Deputy Commissioner Martin Brand