

8-14-00

Jim: Per your request for assistance in wording a letter to your customers, here is a draft that may be helpful. If I can be of further assistance, you can reach me at 863-2513. Dawn

August __, 2000

Dear LPSD Customer:

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments and the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, Lubeck Public Service District (LPSD) must provide our customers with an annual water quality report, which was done in an advertisement in The Parkersburg News and The Parkersburg Sentinel on July 1, 2000.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The presence of those contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. LPSD routinely monitors your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The July 1 advertisement provided the results of monitoring for regulated contaminants.

An unregulated chemical for which LPSD has monitoring data is ammonium perfluorooctanoate (also known as PFOA, APFO, FC-143, and C-8), which is used at DuPont Washington Works. Although PFOA is unregulated (That is, it has no limit established by a regulatory agency.), the DuPont Company has established its own exposure limit and guideline for air, which is the primary exposure route, and water. Low concentrations have been found in drinking water at Washington Works (0.5 parts per billion, or ppb) and in the LPSD wells (0.3, 0.5, and 0.2 ppb). At those levels, consuming two liters of water during a 12-hour period would provide less than 1/100 of the daily dose allowed by DuPont.

PFOA is a persistent chemical that is not immediately eliminated from the blood stream of people who have been exposed to it. DuPont has ample toxicological and epidemiological data to support our confidence that the exposure guidelines established by DuPont are protective of human health.

Attention has recently been focused on PFOA because it is one of several products being phased out by its manufacturer, the 3M Company. Materials similar to PFOA are found in carpet protection products and window cleaners, mouthwashes and other oral hygiene products, firefighting foam, and other products.

LPSD is committed to providing safe water to our customers. If you have any questions, you can reach _____ at LPSD at 863-3341.

Sincerely,

James M. Cox, Manager

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