

BOROUGH OF RINGWOOD

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VIA ELECTRONIC AND REGULAR MAIL

April 5, 2016

Walter Mugdan, Director Emergency and Remedial Response Division
United States Environmental Protection Agency
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007-1866

Dear Mr. Mugdan:

On behalf of the Borough of Ringwood, I am writing to you in response to the recent public attention (including the March 1 Ringwood Community Advisory Group meeting attended by more than 120 people, numerous newspaper articles and editorials, information being exchanged via social media, attached recent flyer distributed this past weekend) to the 1,4 dioxane exceedances that were recently reported in the groundwater and limited surface water largely within the boundaries of the Ringwood State Park property owned by the State of New Jersey.

My office has received and I have personally responded to countless inquiries from residents and other members of the public whether:

1. The potable water in Ringwood is safe to use;
2. The Ringwood potable wells have been impacted by the 1,4 dioxane from the Site; and
3. The Wanaque Reservoir has been impacted by the 1,4 dioxane from the Site.

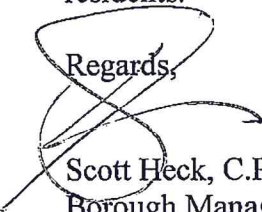
As you should be aware, approximately 97% of drinking water in the Borough of Ringwood is drawn from four groundwater production wells owned and operated by the Borough. The attached Table 1 summarizes analytical results for 1,4-dioxane from recent sampling of the Borough's potable wells conducted in 2013 and again in 2016. As you also know, there is no drinking water standard established by EPA or NJDEP for 1,4-dioxane but NJDEP has an "Interim Specific Groundwater Quality Standard" of 0.4 ug/L for site investigation purposes. As shown in Table 1, there are no exceedances of the NJDEP Interim Standard for 1,4 dioxane in any of these production well results, which mostly report non detect for 1,4 dioxane. Please let us know if EPA has any additional data which should be included on this chart.

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The balance of the Borough's drinking water (approximately 3% of the total volume of potable water to Ringwood) is purchased from the Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC) which is drawn primarily from the Wanaque Reservoir. This water is treated at the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) Water Treatment Plant located in Wanaque, NJ. The attached Table 2 summarizes the most recent analytical data from the testing of the Wanaque Reservoir by the NJDWSC in 2013 and confirms that 1,4 dioxane is not detected in that sampling event.

The Borough requests that the EPA share these testing results for the Borough's potable water from both production wells (97%) and the Wanaque Reservoir (3%) with the Ringwood CAG members. The analytical data clearly shows that the Borough potable water is completely safe for use by its residents. We will continue to monitor the situation and take all action necessary to ensure that any Site-related groundwater does not impact the potable water supply to our residents.

Regards,


Scott Heck, C.P.W.M.
Borough Manager

CC: Doug Garbarini, Joe Gowers, Sal Badalamenti, Frank Cardiello, Esq., USEPA
Ringwood CAG
Wanada Monahan, Esq., Sedita, Campisano & Campisano
Lawra Dodge, Excel Environmental

TABLE 1
RECENT PRODUCTION WELL¹ POTABLE WATER ANALYTICAL RESULTS: 1,4-DIOXANE
 Borough of Ringwood, Passaic County, New Jersey

Facility Name	Sample Location	Sample Matrix	Sample Date	Analytical Method	Method Detection Limit (ug/L)	1,4-Dioxane (ug/L)	NJDEP GWQC ² (ug/L)
Borough of Ringwood Valley Road Treatment Plant	Valley Road TP	GW	1/22/2013	EPA 522	0.07	0.08287	0.4
	Valley Road TP	GW	9/4/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Valley Road TP	GW	2/26/2016	EPA 8270 SIM	0.0735	ND	0.4
Borough of Ringwood Brooksdyde Treatment Plant	Treatment Plant #1	GW	1/22/2013	EPA 522	0.07	0.10145	0.4
	Treatment Plant #1	GW	7/24/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Treatment Plant #1	GW	2/26/2016	EPA 8270 SIM	0.0721	ND	0.4
Borough of Ringwood Beattie Lane Treatment Plant	Beattie Lane TP	GW	1/22/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Beattie Lane TP	GW	7/24/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Beattie Lane TP	GW	2/26/2016	EPA 8270 SIM	0.0721	ND	0.4

KEY:

- ug/L - micrograms per liter or parts per billion
- NJDEP - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- GWQC - NJDEP Interim Groundwater Quality Criteria Adopted November 2015
- GW - Groundwater
- ND - Not Detected Above the Method Detection Limit Listed
- EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency
- SIM - Selective Ion Monitoring

NOTES:

- 1 - Approximately 97% of the Borough of Ringwood's potable water is drawn from production wells owned and operated by the Borough.
- 2 - This value is the NJDEP Interim Specific Groundwater Quality Criteria which is for site investigation purposes only. Given that there is no EPA or NJDEP drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane, it is provided only as a point of reference.

TABLE 2
RECENT WANAQUE RESERVOIR POTABLE WATER¹ ANALYTICAL RESULTS: 1,4-DIOXANE
 Borough of Ringwood, Passaic County, New Jersey

Facility Name	Sample Location	Sample Matrix	Sample Date	Analytical Method	Method Detection Limit (ug/L)	1,4-Dioxane (ug/L)	NJDEP GWQC ² (ug/L)
Passaic Valley Water Commission Intertie	PVWC Intertie	SW	1/22/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	PVWC Intertie	SW	4/22/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	PVWC Intertie	SW	7/24/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	PVWC Intertie	SW	11/4/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
North Jersey District Water Supply Commission Treatment Plant	Wanaque Treatment Plant	SW	2/15/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Wanaque Treatment Plant	SW	5/16/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Wanaque Treatment Plant	SW	8/15/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4
	Wanaque Treatment Plant	SW	11/21/2013	EPA 522	0.07	ND	0.4

KEY:

- ug/L - micrograms per liter or parts per billion
- NJDEP - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- GWQC - NJDEP Interim Groundwater Quality Criteria Adopted November 2015
- PVWC - Passaic Valley Water Commission
- SW - Surface Water
- ND - Not Detected Above the Method Detection Limit Listed
- EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

NOTES:

- 1 - Approximately 3% of the Borough of Ringwood's potable water is drawn from the Wanaque Reservoir.
- 2 - This value is the NJDEP Interim Specific Groundwater Quality Criteria which is for site investigation purposes only. Given that there is no EPA or NJDEP drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane, it is provided only as a point of reference.

RINGWOOD

WaterCrisis

#TownCoverUp

#TownCorruption

Town Meeting

April 20th

20 10 17
STEWART