

LAURA CURRAN
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE



LAWRENCE E. EISENSTEIN, MD, MPH, FACP
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

September 30, 2021

By Email

Peter La Duca
Executive Manager
Nassau BOCES
Health & Safety Training and Information Service
George Farber Administrative Center
71 Clinton Road
Garden City, NY 11530-9195

Mr. La Duca:

In response to your inquiry regarding an update of the water quality being supplied to the Levittown Schools within the service area of the New York American Water-Merrick (NYAW-M) system, I can confirm that the NYAW-M system is in compliance with the NY State Sanitary Code and that the water quality meets all current drinking water standards with the exception of 1,4-Dioxane. **The water provided by the public water system continues to be acceptable for all uses including drinking, prepare food and use for any other type of consumption.**

NYAW-M operates two of its wells in the southern part of Levittown and they currently exceed the new Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for 1,4-Dioxane of 1.0 ug/L which was implemented on August 25, 2020 by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Once instituted, this new MCL became the lowest regulatory level for this compound in the United States. Currently there is no Federal MCL for 1,4-Dioxane. The NYSDOH Toxic Risk Assessment staff set this MCL well below levels known to cause health effects. Therefore, consuming water with 1,4-Dioxane at the levels detected in these NYAW-M wells does not pose a significant health risk.

The only approved treatment process to remove 1,4-Dioxane is known as Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP). It is a new and complex treatment process requiring extensive planning and testing before construction of a treatment plant. The planning, construction and testing of the AOP systems takes well over a year to complete, therefore the



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NYSDOH allowed water systems that had wells exceeding the new standard the opportunity to apply for a two-year deferral from violations associated with exceeding the MCL. NYSDOH granted these deferrals with conditions: that the water system had already been taking proactive steps to come into compliance, that the public be notified, that the use of wells exceeding the MCL be minimized and that the water system conform to a compliance plan with status updates provided to the State and County Health Departments on a quarterly basis and posted on the water system's website. NYAW-M applied for a deferral because the two wells they have that exceed this MCL are needed to maintain a minimum pressure in that part of their water system. NYAW-M was granted the deferral by the NYSDOH and is currently on schedule with their compliance plan. Please see the attached public notice sent out by NYAW-M. The notice was pre-approved by the NYSDOH with language required by the State.

Please contact me if you have any additional questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,



William Provoncha, Director
Office of Public Water Supply Protection & Groundwater Assessment
Nassau County Department of Health