



Connecticut Department of

**ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

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**Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Remediation Division**

November 15, 2019

The Honorable Robert Bessel
First Selectman
Canton Town Hall
P.O. Box 168
4 Market Street
Collinsville, CT 06019

Robert Skinner
Chief Administrative Officer
Canton Town Hall
P.O. Box 168
4 Market Street
Collinsville, CT 06019

RE: Historical AFFF Discharge at Cherry Brook Primary School
4 Barbourtown Road
Canton, CT 06019

Dear First Selectman Bessel and Mr. Skinner,

On November 6, 2019, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (Department) was made aware of the historical discharge of Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) at the Cherry Brook Primary School. It is the Department's understanding that approximately 40 gallons of the AFFF concentrate diluted with water to make 1,300 gallons of foam solution was released during firefighter training drills in 2014, at two (2) landscaped areas on the school grounds located south and east of the school building.

As we are now all aware, AFFF firefighting foam contains chemicals collectively known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which present heightened concerns from all stakeholders. Since being made aware of the release by Fire Chief Bruce Lockwood, the two onsite water supply wells used by the school were sampled by the Town's water system operator, and the results of those tests are pending. Until results of the well water sampling and analyses are available, an alternative water supply is being provided to the school. The Department greatly appreciates the proactive efforts taken by the Town in response to this issue.

As was discussed during our meeting at your offices on November 14, 2019, additional response actions are necessary to investigate the two AFFF release areas and to evaluate sensitive receptors in the near vicinity of the school. These actions include:

1. Completion of a drinking water well receptor survey to identify all wells located within 500 feet of the school property and testing of such well water for PFAS using EPA Method 537.1 by a certified laboratory.
2. Testing of soil at the two AFFF release areas on the school grounds to determine the extent and concentration of any residual PFAS that may be present. Soil testing should include analysis of soil from shallow (0-3 inch depth) and deeper zones.
3. Any additional environmental investigation that may be necessary, depending upon the results of items 1 and 2, above.
4. Any interim remedial actions or remediation necessary as a result of the soil and potable water testing.

We understand that the Town intends to retain the services of an environmental consultant to perform these services and will do so voluntarily. Please inform the Department of the name of the Town's environmental consultant retained for this and provide the investigation schedule, work plans, and subsequent investigation reports to the Department. The Department is available to provide guidance to the Town during the course of the investigation.

If you have any questions, please contact Jade Barber of my staff at (860) 424-3341 or at jade.barber@ct.gov.

Sincerely,



Ray Frigon
Assistant Director
Remediation Division
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse

cc: Shannon Pociu, DEEP
Jade Barber, DEEP
Robert Robinson, DEEP
Kevin Case, Superintendent of Schools
Jennifer Kertanis, Director, Farmington Valley Health District
Brian Toal, DPH Environmental Health Section
Lori Mathieu, DPH Drinking Water Section