



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

July 3, 2014

Chairman Michael Crawford  
Antrim County Board of Commissioners  
P.O. Box 520  
Bellaire, Michigan 49615

Dear Chairman Crawford and Fellow Commissioners:

I am writing to extend my appreciation for the opportunity you provided me to discuss with you the Wickes trichloroethylene (TCE) Groundwater contamination as it relates to the municipal water system on June 17, 2014.

As you know the continual spread of the TCE contaminated groundwater has resulted in a significant expenditure of state cleanup funds, totaling more than 18 million dollars to date, to provide safe drinking water to the residents of Antrim County. Providing reliable safe drinking water has been a challenge, but also a stellar example of partnership between the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Custer Township, Mancelona Township, the Village of Mancelona, the Mancelona Area Water and Sewer Authority and their consultant, Gourdie-Fraser, in addition to the leadership and members of the Antrim County United Through Ecology (ACUTE), and Antrim County. The success of the water system could not have been realized without each of them.

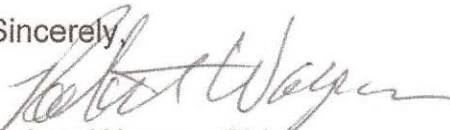
Unfortunately, additional water system improvements and funding is necessary to address the risks posed by the spreading TCE contamination. While the state cleanup funds have been the principle source of funding in the past, at this time, state cleanup funds are close to depletion. Because of this funding limitation, the DEQ has committed \$500,000 to fund the proposed water system improvements. Further, in the event the community is able to contribute \$250,000 towards this effort, the DEQ will commit an additional \$250,000.

We are very fortunate that the citizens of Michigan have made cleanup funding available to address risks due to environmental contamination through the passage of the 1988 Environmental Protection Bond, and the 1998 Clean Michigan Initiative Bond. As you know, funding to address risk due to environmental contamination in Michigan and Antrim County is still needed. I am hopeful that new and continued funding will be forthcoming and we will look to the citizens of Michigan to support future cleanup funding in the very near future.

July 3, 2014

If you have any additional questions, please contact me at 517-284-5144;  
wagnerr1@michigan.gov; or DEQ, P.O. Box 30426, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7926.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Wagner". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert Wagner, Chief  
Remediation and Redevelopment Division

cc: Mr. Gary Knapp, ACUTE  
Ms. Amy Epkey, DEQ  
Ms. Liane Shekter Smith, DEQ  
Mr. Randy Rothe, DEQ