

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 3, 2016

Mr. Gregory C. Preston
Director
Base Realignment and Closure Program Management Office East
Department of the Navy
4911 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19112-1303

Dear Mr. Preston,

We are writing on behalf of the people we represent to seek a full understanding of the well water contamination in parts of Bucks and Montgomery counties in Pennsylvania near former military facilities.

The high levels of the toxic chemical compounds PFOA and PFOS found in public and private water wells near the former Naval Air Warfare Center in Warminster and the former Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Horsham have caused significant alarm. Residents who consumed the contaminated water have understandable concern that these chemicals, which studies show can cause serious illness, are the cause of their own health conditions. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry has called PFOA and PFOS contamination of these wells a “past public health hazard.”

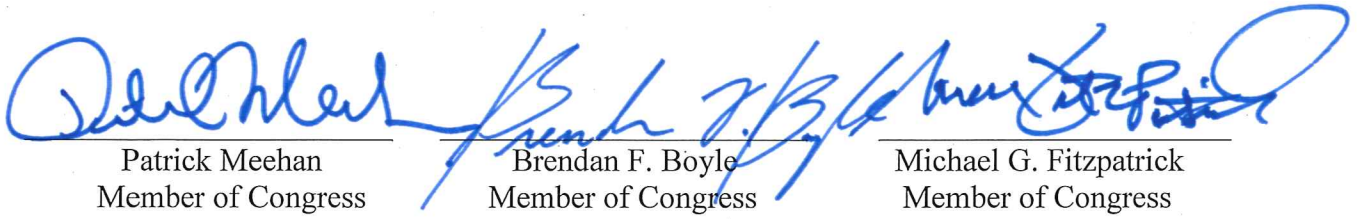
We appreciate that the Navy has been working closely with the EPA, public water authorities and residents to take wells offline, address contamination and provide safe drinking water access. Yet we believe it is imperative that affected families in Warminster and Horsham have a complete understanding of when and how the Navy determined the nature of the well contamination, as well as its response to it.

With that in mind, please address the following questions as promptly as possible:

1. How did the Navy first determine that PFOA and PFOS were present in public and private water wells in Warminster, Horsham and Warrington?
2. On what exact date did the Navy learn that PFOA and PFOS were present in public and private water wells in Warminster, Horsham and Warrington?
3. On what exact date did the Navy inform local authorities and relevant state and federal agencies? Please characterize the nature and content of those notifications.
4. On what exact date were area residents informed about the presence of PFOA and PFOS? Please characterize the nature and content of those notifications.
5. On what exact date were the contaminated wells taken offline?
6. What steps did the Navy take to inform residents that PFOA and PFOS might cause illness?

Thank you in advance for your prompt reply. We believe our constituents deserve a full accounting of the well contamination and steps taken to address it. Please don't hesitate to contact Jim Gray at (202) 225-2011 (Meehan), Helena Mastrogianis at (202) 225-6111 (Boyle) or Chris Matarangas at (202) 225-4276 (Fitzpatrick) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Michael G. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress