

News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 12, 2017

CONTACT: Jim Martin, (603) 271-3710

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NHDES and Saint-Gobain Announce Agreement to Fund Design Work on Potential Public Water Extension in Bedford

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced today that Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics has agreed to fund design efforts for a potential extension of public water service into Bedford, New Hampshire. The agreement is in response to drinking water wells in the area containing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) above New Hampshire's Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). The Pennichuck Corporation will complete the design work, which will include 61 properties. Additionally, in Bedford, water line connections to six properties along South River Road are being investigated.

Saint-Gobain has made this commitment while NHDES continues to investigate other potentially responsible parties, who may also bear financial responsibilities. Saint-Gobain has done this because of their focus on public health of the local communities and their employees. NHDES has determined that construction of water service extensions is the most efficient and cost-effective solution regardless of what other sources may later be identified as contributing to the problem. NHDES is continuing to test wells in the area to determine the full extent of contamination. Well testing can be requested at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHDES-S-03-008>

A public meeting has been scheduled for property owners in the design area. Affected property owners will be contacted and invited to the meeting by Pennichuck Corporation. It is important that property owners attend the meeting to meet with Pennichuck Corporation to complete necessary paperwork to expedite the design process. The meeting Information is below:

Bedford Public Meeting:

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

6:30 pm

Peter Woodbury Elementary School

180 County Road, Bedford, NH 03110

For more information, please contact James Martin, NHDES Public Information Officer, at (603) 271-3710. Additional information on NHDES' ongoing investigation into perfluorinated chemicals in New Hampshire drinking water, please visit <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

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