

September 29, 2021

Douglas Ballotti, Director
Superfund & Emergency Management Division
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd., SR-6J
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: National Priority List De-Proposal

Dear Mr. Ballotti:

The Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD) is providing this letter in support of IDEM's proposal to request that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Region 5, de-propose its April 7, 2016, proposal of the Riverside Groundwater Contamination (Site 0153), Marion County, Indiana to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL).

The primary environmental concerns at Site 0153 are the five chlorinated volatile organic compounds (cVOCs) found in the drinking water aquifers used by a portion of Indianapolis. Today, many of the production wells within Site 0153 are showing non-detections in the raw water, and the rest of the wells are showing cVOC levels in the raw water below the maximum contamination levels (MCLs) specified for finished water under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Moreover, the cVOC contamination levels in these production wells have been decreasing over time. Additionally, IDEM and Citizens Energy Group have developed a robust and protective contingency plan should an MCL be exceeded in raw production well water in the future.

The MCPHD investigated private wells located within the Site 0153 investigation area to determine the status of the private wells and requested owner access to collect a sample. All wells that MCPHD was granted access by the owner to sample were found to be non-detect for cVOCs. Only a small number (7) of residential private wells were identified the area. The MCPHD will continue to address private well issues and conduct sampling in the future if needed, and residents may always make use of the MCPHD's free well testing program.

The MCPHD has been involved in the de-proposal process and agrees that adequate information has been developed to understand the nature and extent of Site 0153 impacts and the overall risk associated with impacts to the Wellfields. The MCPHD supports IDEM's proposal to have Site 0153 removed from the NPL and does not believe removal of the site from the NPL will be detrimental to public health.

Sincerely,



Dana Reed Wise, MPH, REHS
Chief, Bureau of Environmental Health