

**TOWN OF STELLA
ONEIDA COUNTY
2496 CTH C
P.O. Box 1141
Rhineland, WI 54501**

Robert Goodin - Supervisor
(715) 369-9280

David Brunette - Chairman
(715) 369-5430

Richard Hirman - Supervisor
(715) 493-0301

Kathleen Baker - Treasurer
(715) 369-0437

Stacy Schickert - Clerk
(715) 369-2292

December 31, 2022

****VIA U.S. MAIL****

Governor Tony Evers
115 East State Capitol
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707

Tammy Baldwin, U.S. Senator
30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700
Madison, WI 53703

Ron Johnson, U.S. Senator
5315 Wall Street, Suite 110
Madison, WI 53718

Tom Tiffany, U.S. House of Representative for the Seventh District
2620 Stewart Avenue, Suite 312
Wausau, WI 54401

Mary Fezkowski, Senator for District 12
Room 415 South, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53708

Rob Swearingen, Representative for District 34
Room 123 West, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8593
Madison, WI 53708

RE: Town of Stella, Wisconsin – PFAS

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

As you may be aware, private wells in the Town of Stella have tested positive for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS") at levels so high that the water can no longer be safely

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consumed by our residents. Moreover, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) discovered the PFAs in the wells during randomized testing conducted statewide.

Representatives from the State of Wisconsin attended a Town of Stella meeting on December 13, 2022, including Sarah Yang, Ph.D., from the Department of Health Services and James Yach, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) Secretary’s Director for the Northern Region. However, the meeting did not provide the Town with any concrete guidance, nor did it instruct the Town how to handle the PFAS contamination moving forward. Moreover, at this time, the Town has still not received further information regarding the DNR’s findings, including the locations of the contaminated wells or the source of the contamination.

As Town Chairman, I have taken the initiative to again reach out to DNR Secretary Adam Payne, Mr. Yach, and Chris Saari, Northern Region Team Supervisor (Remediation & Redevelopment Program) for the DNR, and requested the following relief on behalf of the Town of Stella:

- 1) Immediate testing to determine the location of the contaminated wells.
- 2) Assessment of each source of contamination.
- 3) Provision of temporary water to all affected residents in the community, pursuant to NR 738, including the resources to administer the program.
- 4) Work with the Town to create a long-term solution to providing clean water to our residences and to remediate the contamination in our area.

We further requested a meeting with DNR officials within ten business days of receipt of the correspondence.

However, given the severity of the contamination, as well as the small population of our Town, we are respectfully calling on our elected public officials to assist in remedying this issue, as well as advocating for our municipality at the local and state level. As I informed the DNR officials, the Town of Stella simply cannot address this situation without significant State assistance. It is imperative that the State provide us with the necessary funding and resources to address this issue. Our Town Board is comprised of myself, the chairman, and two supervisors. We also have a Town Clerk and a Town Treasurer. As a result, we are not in a position to serve our constituents and appropriately address the PFAS contamination on our own.

In conclusion, the health of the residents of the Town of Stella is at stake. Please do what you can to assist us in speeding up the process, locating the source of contamination, and, ultimately, developing a long-term solution to provide clean water to our residents and to remediate the contamination in our municipality.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Brunette". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

David Brunette
Chairman, Town of Stella

cc: Mr. Bob Goodin, Supervisor
Mr. Rich Hirman, Supervisor
Ms. Stacy Schickert, Clerk
Ms. Kathy Baker, Treasurer