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Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program
Department of Environmental Protection
208 W Third Street, Suite 101
Williamsport, PA 17701

RE: PFAs Investigation Public Comment
Consent Order and Agreement
PSU-State College Regional Airport

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

As a concerned resident, and elected Supervisor, of Benner Township, I am extremely concerned about the Remedial Investigation Work Plan to be undertaken by Penn State under the direction of PA DEP. My concerns regarding the actions in the COA are as follows:

1. The additional impact of contamination to the surrounding waters and soils caused by perfluorooctanoic acid "PFOA", and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid "PFOS" and variants of each, including but not limited to PFNA, PFHxS, PFOA and PFBS in the State College Regional Airport property has caused great concern for the current identified neighborhood, Walnut Grove Estates (WGE), as well as the communities beyond the known contaminated areas.
2. Benner Township has been exposed to the use of biosolids, wastewater discharges, and the use of aqueous fire-fighting films containing PFAs. Additional testing to identify the extent of the airport plume's impact is imperative since a vast majority of Benner Township properties' water supplies are by private wells. Impacted properties beyond those already identified should be afforded the same remedy as those properties receiving a POET system OR provided with an accessible public water.
3. The PA DEP must take immediate and appropriate action to restore the residents and their properties to their condition prior to the contamination. This would also include any additional properties identified with the contaminants listed above.

4. PFAs is known for adverse medical effects. Residents have and are experiencing adverse medical effects, including unexplained death, in the WGE community. Require medical monitoring of all the residents in the areas affected by PFAs contamination, i.e., contact and monitoring via the Department of Health.
5. There's no mention of standardized water testing. Sample well must be drilled to uniformly monitor contamination levels. This should also apply to any new development within the township and beyond the township boundaries.
6. There's no mention of soil testing. Soil tests must be performed to uniformly monitor contamination levels and areas. This should also apply prior to any further development within the township and beyond the township boundaries. This is of utmost importance with respect to the proposed sewer project through the contaminated development, along the route from Shiloh Road to Rock Road to Big Hollow Road to WGE and along the waterway.
 - a. This project includes two stream crossings (Spring Creek) where the environmental safety and effect on this designated "Class A" waterway is questionable. Documents have declared this waterway is contaminated with PFAs yet no "warning signs" are posted in the area.
 - b. The COA is silent about isolating, sequestering and/or the soil left from the contaminated areas. The attitude of the municipal authority, and government, is that the PA DEP does not require the testing. A mandate by the PA DEP code must require soil testing before a project or development will disturb contaminated soils.
7. The COA does not insure the water filtration systems filter both interior and exterior (hose connections).
 - a. The failure to filter both connection areas negates the use of all the residents' water sources, including gardens, fruit trees, etc.
 - b. The failure to remediate the contaminated soil does not allow eating the vegetables, fruits, etc. without ingesting harmful contaminants.
8. There is no language that removes liability and hold residents harmless from discharging contaminated waters or soils from their properties.
9. The loss of their property values is the very least they can be paid along with free, safe public water

I am very concerned for the residents at WGE as well as every resident in Benner Township. It is unconscionable to think about the stress, health, welfare, and possible loss of life that these residents have been living with for way too long. They did not cause this problem. They deserve safe, public water in perpetuity. They do NOT need public sewer.

The problem has been ignored way too long. A plan must be immediately implemented to protect the entire Township from becoming a hazardous community. I am appealing to the PA DEP for the sake of my family, the future of Benner Township and its residents, and especially for the residents of Walnut Grove Estates to revise the COA. Where is the accountability? Why is there a hold harmless clause? The firefighting foam was tested in the name of public safety for the airline travel

industry, yet there is **no** mention to public safety of residents affected by PFAs ground water contamination. You do something in the name of public safety. But in doing so, is doing harm to others also in the name of public safety? It is time to enforce your own mission **“protect the state’s air, land, and water resources, to the ensure the health and safety of Pennsylvania residents and visitors”**.

Sincerely,

Kathy Evey
Benner Township
Resident and Supervisor

CC: Senator Chris Dush
Representative Paul Takac
Benner Township
Christine Line, Esq.