



Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Misael Cabrera
Director

March 9, 2021

Brigadier General Gregory Kreuder
Commander, 56th Fighter Wing
14185 West Falcon Street
Luke Air Force Base, AZ 85309

Re: Request for PFAS Data and Regular Coordination on PFAS

Dear Brigadier General Kreuder:

On February 18, 2021, Luke Air Force Base (Luke AFB) notified Valley Utilities Water Company (VUWCO) and its customers that the supply wells for VUWCO had levels of certain Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that exceeded the 2016 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health advisory level. Ensuring Arizonans are receiving healthy drinking water from water systems is our top priority, and we share the concerns of residents in the area. The February 18th notification caught many by surprise, including the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). We appreciate the voluntary, swift short-term actions Luke AFB is taking to provide an alternate drinking water source for VUWCO customers at no cost to VUWCO.

ACC and ADEQ are charged with ensuring safe and reliable utility services and drinking water quality. To this end, ADEQ and ACC (the Agencies) request that Luke AFB provide the Agencies with comprehensive and consolidated relevant sampling data from past Luke AFB investigation activities, including private well and public water system sampling data completed downgradient of the base. The Agencies preference is to receive this data in a consolidated Excel spreadsheet. In addition, the Agencies request close coordination on future sampling plans and accelerated sharing of analytical results of future sampling. Please note that the federal Safe Drinking Water Act provides EPA with the authority to require that Luke AFB provide any drinking water system data related to these contaminants. The Agencies also request Luke AFB carbon copy the Agencies' respective staff on all relevant communications between Luke AFB and private wells and public water systems downgradient of the base, including VUWCO.

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We respectfully request a meeting with Luke AFB to discuss this request and to put a process in place to ensure appropriate data are shared timely, to protect Arizonans and our drinking water supply, and to ensure people served by public water systems in the area of Luke AFB receive timely information.

Sincerely,



Misael Cabrera, Director
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Lea Márquez Peterson, Chairwoman
Arizona Corporation Commission

cc: Thomas Torres, Water Division Director, U.S. EPA Region 9
Amy Miller, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Director, U.S. EPA Region 9
Darcy Kober, Director, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department
Shimi Mathew, Chief, Air Force Civil Engineering Center