

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE TOWN OF ANDREWS
CONCERNING ITS DRINKING WATER

On June 19, 2020, the Huntington County Health Department issued a “Do Not Drink” advisory for residents of the Town of Andrews (“Town”). That advisory has now been lifted. However, the Town needs your assistance in reducing water usage until we can find a solution to the contamination in the Town’s Municipal Wells.

The Town’s sole source of drinking water is groundwater, supplied through three shallow water supply wells. All three of these wells (but particularly Municipal Well 1) have been impacted at one time or another with chemicals flowing from the former United Technologies Automotive Plant. United Technologies recently merged with Raytheon Technologies Corporation (“Raytheon”). In 1994, Raytheon was required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (“IDEM”) to install a treatment system intended to strip its contaminants from the Town’s drinking water (after it has been pumped from the wells but before delivery to the Town’s residents). This system is called an “air stripper.” The Town does not own or control, or even have access to the air stripper, which is the responsibility of Raytheon.

In early 2012, the Town shut down Well 1 in response to taste and odor complaints from residents, and subsequently relied solely on Wells 2 and 3. Wells 2 and 3 are impacted with contamination, but the levels of hazardous chemicals are lower than the levels that have been detected in Well 1. In May of this year, the pumping capacity of Wells 2 and 3 decreased, and the Town was no longer able to meet the overall water demands using just those two wells. In response, the Town reactivated Well 1 on May 7, 2020.

When the Town reactivated Well 1, it depended on Raytheon's air stripper, as it has in the past, to remove any contamination before it reached the Town's finished drinking water. Beginning on approximately June 4, and continuing for several days, the air stripper malfunctioned. Raytheon did not timely notify the Town that its air stripper was malfunctioning. The air stripper does not include redundant safety features and has not been managed properly, such that it goes off-line with alarming frequency. At the time the air stripper went down, the most recent sampling data indicated that Well 1 contained vinyl chloride at 19.4 ug/L (almost 10 times higher than EPA and Indiana drinking water standard or maximum contaminant level ["MCL"] of 2.0 ug/L) and cis-1,2-DCE at 124 ug/L (nearly double the EPA and Indiana MCL of 70 ug/L). Wells 2 and 3 also had vinyl chloride and cis-1,2-DCE, but the levels were lower.

Due to the high levels of contamination, Well 1 has again been removed from service. The Town has also flushed its water lines to remove any residual vinyl chloride from the Town's drinking water distribution system. Because of the limited production capacity of Wells 2 and 3, the Town no longer has a sufficient supply of safe water to meet the Town's needs during periods of high usage. Therefore, we ask that you limit your water usage and avoid activities such as washing your car, filling swimming pools, and watering lawns. We are working as fast as we can to resolve this situation so that the restrictions can be lifted.

On June 22, 2020, IDEM conducted a site visit and conducted additional sampling of the Town's water supply. The June 22, 2020 sampling event detected vinyl chloride in Well 1 at 30.3 ug/L (the highest level ever detected and 15 times higher than the MCL) and cis-1,2-DCE at 131 ug/L (nearly double the MCL). IDEM also collected four samples from the Town's finished water on June 22, 2020. The tap water sample collected from the lab building at the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant contained vinyl chloride at a concentration of 2.0 ug/L, equal to the

MCL. This sample also contained cis-1,2-DCE at 19.1 ug/L. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is at the end of the line of the Town's water distribution system. The vinyl chloride that was detected there was likely residual from the period in time when Well 1 was in use and the air stripper was not functioning, and it is likely that the levels were higher further upstream in the distribution system.

On June 27 and 28, after the Town flushed its water system, IDEM and Raytheon's consultant conducted additional sampling of the Town's finished drinking water from four distribution points. All samples were below the MCL. However, several of the finished drinking water samples continue to contain cis-1,2-DCE. These samples demonstrate that the air stripper is not able to completely remove this chemical from the water supply. Additionally, even without Well 1 in service, Wells 2 and 3 have the potential to exceed the MCL for vinyl chloride. During quarterly sampling last fall, when Municipal Well 1 was not being used, the influent to the air stripper still had vinyl chloride at 3.2 ug/L, which is above the MCL.

The Town does not have access to the air stripper, or a staff person who is qualified to operate or maintain the air stripper. The Town asked IDEM to guarantee that the air stripper will not suffer any further mechanical problems. IDEM refused to make any guarantees with respect to the air stripper. The Town also asked IDEM to sample the drinking water every day to make sure the air stripper is functioning properly. IDEM refused to conduct daily sampling as requested by the Town.

To this day, groundwater contamination from the former factory is being actively drawn into the Town's drinking water wells. Raytheon and IDEM have failed to address this contamination in a comprehensive way, and for the past 26 years have relied on the Town's drinking water wells as part of a *de facto* groundwater remediation strategy. Groundwater

remediation is generally designed to prevent impacts to drinking water supplies, not encourage impacts.

The increasing levels of contamination in Well 1, coupled with the mechanical failures in Raytheon's air stripper, have put the Town in an impossible situation. The Town has filed an emergency motion asking a court to order Raytheon to install new wells in a clean aquifer so that the Town can have safe water.