

**Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG)
Meeting Summary – December 16, 2020**

CPWG Member	Present	Excused	Absent
Marianne Zwicklbauer			X
Emily Marpe	X		
Loreen Hackett	X		
Barbara Lancour	X		
Brian Bushner	X		
Eric Sheffer		X	
Mark Surdam	X		
Rob Allen			X
Pat Dailey	X		
David Lukas			X
Michael Hickey		X	
Facilitator			
Nancy Pattarini, The Paige Group	X		
Carrie McMurray, The Paige Group	X		
Presenters			
Ian Beilby, NYSDEC	X		
Susan Edwards, NYSDEC	X		
Justin Deming, NYSDOH	X		

Note: The December 16, 2020 meeting of the CPWG was conducted via an online video/conference platform due to the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. A press release reminder of the meeting date was issued to local media. A meeting date reminder and log-in directions were emailed to all community members who have signed up on the CPWG Listserv. Meeting-related materials may be found on the Hoosick Area CPWG website www.hoosickareacpwg.org and on the NYSDEC website <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html>

Discussion Summary:

- I. Welcome – The Paige Group
 - a. Facilitator – The Paige Group
 - i. The Facilitator provided an overview of meeting agenda and protocol for online participation
 - ii. The Facilitator noted that the opportunity for comments from participating community members will be provided at the end of each presentation
 - iii. The Facilitator introduced CPWG Co-chairs, Loreen Hackett and Brian Bushner
- II. NYSDEC Update – Following are excerpts from the NYSDEC’s update
 - a. Remediation Activities
 - i. Please visit the Hoosick Area CPWG website for site updates presented at the November meeting. <https://hoosickareacpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Hoosick-Area-CPWG-Nov-2020-NYSDEC-Presentation.pdf>
 - b. Water Study
 - i. The Water Study Report will be released in the coming days

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- ii. The community has the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) when released. The PRAP will propose the State’s recommended option for the Village of Hoosick Falls’ water supply. NYSDEC expects the PRAP to be issued late in the first quarter of 2021.
- c. Teflon Storage Containers
 - i. NYSDEC is currently looking at options
 - 1. Could be held in conjunction with a hazardous waste collection day. If so, it should be held within the village so people can transport the containers more easily
 - a. Emily Marpe will look into a possible collection date, original date was cancelled due to COVID
 - b. Location TBD
 - ii. Final collection plan will include a mechanism for notifying the community and include guidance on safe handling
- d. CPWG Comments/Questions
 - Key: C=Comment, Q= Question, A= Answer
 - i. C: Honeywell and Saint-Gobain will be providing technical expertise to the village regarding the water study data and findings.
 - ii. Q: What is the history of pesticide use around the Wysocki well and were they detected in the samples taken? What pesticides does the GAC remove, and how do we protect the Wysocki well from future contamination?
A: The history of specific pesticide use at the farm is not known. However, analysis of water samples was performed for the most widely-used pesticides and herbicides during the MWSS. Minor detections (orders of magnitude below drinking water standards or MCLs) have been documented in three of the monitoring wells on the Wysocki property. No pesticides have been detected in the primary test wells (Wysocki and LaCroix). Detections of PFAS range from ND to close to 10 ppt in monitoring wells nearing Route 22 indicating low levels of PFAS have reached the deep aquifer. A value of 38 ppt was detected in one of three rounds of sampling on the LaCroix property but that has been an anomaly and has not been replicated. The deep aquifer is largely protected from high concentrations of PFOA in shallow groundwater by a thick layer of low-permeability clay. A monitoring program will continue to sample groundwater from the sentinel monitoring wells installed to document water quality. All public drinking water is required under NYSDOH regulations to remain below published maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) or treatment is required.
 - iii. Q: The community is skeptical of “acceptable levels” and worried about unregulated and emerging contaminants. How do we know we won’t be in the same situation in the future?
A; GAC remains the “best available technology” for treating synthetic organic compounds such as most pesticides. Monitoring for the most widely used synthetic compounds was conducted as part of the MWSS. In the unlikely event there are additional synthetic organic compounds present, GAC is the best available technology to treat them.

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- e. Public Comments/Questions
 - i. None
- III. NYSDOH – Following are excerpts from the NYSDOH update
 - a. WQC public comment method concerns from the CPWG include:
 - i. Lack of communication about the method used
 - ii. Character versus word limit
 - iii. Duration of comment period
 - iv. Lack of knowledge about option to submit comments in email (emailed comments were read during the meeting)
 - b. NYSDOH recognizes that the public comment portion of the WQC meeting was not ideal
 - i. Improvements will be made for future meetings. Suggestions being considered include:
 - 1. Collaborating with Dr. Erin Bell and Dr. Betsy Lewis-Michl and the multi-community study to bring richer, more relevant data and information to the WQC
 - 2. Meeting reminder to participants with clear written instructions for participation
 - 3. No character or word limitations and longer period of time for public to comment
 - c. Any additional comments/questions related to the WQC meeting may be emailed to dwqc@health.ny.gov
 - d. Private well assessment
 - i. 160 letters were mailed; NYSDOH will follow up with phone calls and door hangers, if necessary
 - ii. More information can be found at: <https://hoosickareacpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/NYSDEC-Reassessment-Program-Fact-Sheet.pdf>
 - e. CPWG Comments/Questions
 - i. C: The Town will remind residents of the private well assessment at the next board meeting and post information on the town website
 - ii. C: Suggest the WQC examine bottled water as high levels of PFAS have been detected in popular name brands, according to Consumer Reports
 - iii. C: Suggest state agencies/organizations create a streamlined process/path for communities/the public to elevate and address concerns and issues versus the current system that included navigating multiple avenues at the same time
 - f. Public Comments/Questions
 - i. None
- IV. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business
 - a. Legislation Updates
 - i. PFAS packaging ban and TCE ban are awaiting the Governor’s signature
 - b. Meeting Summaries
 - i. Posted on hoosickareacpwg.org
 - c. Meeting Schedule – Meeting Location/Format TBD
 - i. Next meeting is 1/27/21. A survey will be sent to the CPWG to gain feedback on remaining 2021 dates.