

**Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG)
Meeting Summary – February 24, 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		
Dr. Erin Bell, University of Albany	X		

Note: The February 24, 2021 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 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
 - b. Co-Chairs
 - i. The co-chairs provided an overview of the meeting agenda
- II. NYSDOH/University of Albany Update – Following are excerpts from the discussion
 - a. There are three areas of interest with regards to the immunological effects of PFAs
 - i. Whether or not they reduce the effectiveness of the vaccines
 - ii. Whether or not they increase the risk of certain infectious diseases
 - iii. Whether or not they increase the risk of certain diseases related to the immune system

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- b. There are new papers that have been published related to these questions that are posted to the website (www.albany.edu/sph/pfas)
- c. We are working on a fact sheet related to these issues that we will post and distribute to the communities when ready (prior to the next CPWG meeting)
- d. Our next CAP meeting for the study is Tuesday, March 2 at 5pm, information is on our website and facebook page.
- e. If there are any questions, email our team at pfas@albany.edu or call 833-732-7697
- f. CPWG Comments/Questions
Key: C=Comment, Q= Question, A= Answer
 - i. Q: What class of vaccines are better for those with elevated levels of PFAS in their blood?
A: Additional study is needed regarding the effectiveness of antibody production after receiving either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine. Any literature that is currently available will be shared in the fact sheet.
 - ii. Q: Are you looking for blood samples of individuals with high levels of PFAS in their blood who have received either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine?
A: We will look into any resources that may be available to conduct a small pilot.
- g. Public Comments/Questions
 - i. None

III. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business

- a. Co-chair Action Items/Updates
 - i. Co-chair support roles – additional information will be shared with CPWG members regarding areas the co-chairs need support/assistance
 - ii. Testing water in schools – requests for contacts and other resources should be directed to NYSDEC. NYSDEC will provide a contact list.
 - iii. CPWG communications
 - 1. DAR Air Emission Guidelines comments submitted and include:
 - a. With the increasing rate of scientific data and health studies being released, not addressing other known PFAS with this listing is a risk to human health.
 - b. Bioaccumulation with PFAS chemicals is a significant and serious health concern. Being exposed to a variety of toxic PFAS and the total body burden of mixtures should also be a factor in decision making.
 - c. CPWG urges NYC DEC and partner state agencies to take a collaborate and proactive approach to studying new and emerging compounds.
 - d. Additional testing is needed at the McCaffrey Street site combined with correlation of data being gathered by DEC and DOH.
 - e. It is our understanding that if new research identifies a compound with high toxicity the DEC can add to the list at any time.
 - f. By expanding its scope to address new and emerging compounds, NYSDEC can more quickly identify and act on

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those toxic substances that pose imminent harm to people and the environment.

- g. Next steps – follow up to pursue request for collaborative effort between NYSDEC and NYSDOH for additional testing
 - h. For the full letter, visit with Hoosick Area CPWG Website <https://hoosickareacpwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Hoosick-Area-CPWG-Comments-on-DAR-1-Guidelines.pdf>
- iv. Multi-community study
 - 1. Moving meeting dates to Mondays
 - 2. Will schedule joint meetings, Newburgh and Hoosick Falls
 - v. Other national and NYS activities relevant to Hoosick Falls
 - 1. National Academy of Sciences Panel meeting PFAS testing guidance and health outcomes
 - a. Meeting link: <https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/02-04-2021/guidance-on-pfas-testing-and-health-outcomes-meeting-1>
 - 2. EPA action on PFAS in drinking water
 - a. Link: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-action-address-pfas-drinking-water>
 - 3. NYS Assembly approves constitutional amendment guaranteeing New Yorkers have clean air and water; referendum expected in November
 - a. Link: <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/ny-state-of-politics/2021/02/09/final-passage-given-to-clean-air-and-water-guarantee-in-new-york>
 - 4. Senator Gillibrand and Senator Schumer
 - a. Senator Gillibrand addressed specific questions to the EPA nominee during the confirmation hearing related to PFAS contamination
 - b. Senator Schumer is working on DOD sites and advancing legislation related to PFAS
- b. Meeting Summaries
 - i. Posted on hoosickareacpwg.org
 - c. Meeting Schedule – Meeting Location/Format TBD
 - i. February 2/24/21
 - ii. March 3/23/21
 - iii. April 4/27/21
 - iv. May 5/25/21
 - v. June 6/22/21
 - vi. July 7/27/21
 - vii. August 8/24/21
 - viii. September 9/21/21
 - ix. October 10/26/21
 - x. November 11/16/21
 - xi. December 12/14/21