



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Cindy Boyle, Chairwoman

Town of Peshtigo Commences PFAS Contamination Litigation

PESHTIGO, WI, Oct. 18, 2022—The Town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin today commenced litigation against the companies responsible for causing contamination of drinking water supplies and other natural resources with highly toxic, persistent “forever chemicals” known as PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances). The Town asserts several claims under Wisconsin law against Tyco Fire Products, Johnson Controls, ChemDesign, and Chemguard, each of which is alleged to have contributed to the environmental contamination that has adversely affected the Town and its residents for years. The Town alleges that the defendants released PFAS from properties located in Marinette, Wisconsin, including the Fire Technology Center at which large volumes of PFAS-based aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) products were tested over several decades. As a result of this testing, extraordinarily high concentrations of PFAS have been detected not only at the property, but also in groundwater and surface waters offsite, including in the Town of Peshtigo.

The Town has been diligently assessing available options to protect and conserve the sensitive natural resources on which Town residents rely, and the public health more broadly, since it first learned of the contamination plume. In order to safeguard the health of Town

residents, and as a direct result of the defendants' unlawful releases of PFAS into Town resources and properties, the Town has initiated the process of creating a utility district that will offer residents access to a permanent clean drinking water supply. In the litigation, the Town is seeking remedies from the defendants sufficient to abate the PFAS contamination and protect the health of Town residents, including but not limited to funding of the utility district.

Town Chairperson Cindy Boyle stated, "Today's filing represents an important next step in protecting Town residents and in holding the polluters accountable. I am confident that the judicial process will help restore our town and begin to return to us what Tyco, JCI, and the other defendants have taken: our water, our safety, and ultimately our peace of mind."

A copy of the complaint filed in Marinette County Circuit Court is available here <https://gelaw.sharefile.com/share/getinfo/s18b0bdca4018415698d11ea923d83e27> and here <https://townofpeshtigo.org/water/>
