

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<http://oversight.house.gov>

January 29, 2016

The Honorable Rick Snyder
Governor, State of Michigan
111 South Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Snyder:

We are writing to request documents relating to the decision to switch the source of drinking water in the City of Flint and the response to the health crisis that has ensued.

The contamination of Flint's drinking water followed decisions by state government officials, acting under emergency authorities passed by the State Legislature in 2011, to switch Flint away from a decades-old contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage District to a newly-created water authority, and to rely during the transition on water drawn from the Flint River.

Responsibility for enforcing state and federal safe drinking water laws belongs to the state, in accordance with federal regulations dating from 1976. Although testing by experts found elevated levels of lead in Flint's water, state-appointed officials provided reassurances to the public about the safety of Flint's drinking water through 2014 and 2015.

It appears that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, at the direction of Dan Wyant, failed to promptly and properly respond to the Flint water crisis, and that he resigned for that reason. His sudden departure, however, raises serious questions about the state's response to the Flint crisis. In order for the Committee to better understand this issue, please make Mr. Wyant available for a transcribed interview as soon as possible.

In addition, we request that you provide the following documents:

- (1) For the period from January 2013 to the present, please provide all documents relating to the drinking water supply in Flint, including the decision to switch Flint's source of water, the Karegnondi Water Authority, and the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and including emails sent to or received by:
 - (a) you or members of your staff;

- (b) former State Treasurers Andy Dillon, Kevin R. Clinton, Nick A. Khouri, or members of their staffs; and
 - (c) former Flint Emergency Managers Edward J. Kurtz, Darnell Earley, Michael Brown, and Gerald Ambrose or members of their staffs.
- (2) For the period from April 2014 to the present, please provide all documents relating to the drinking water supply in Flint, public complaints about Flint water quality, test results and testing of Flint water, legionella/legionellosis/ legionnaires' disease, steps taken or considered to inform the public about the detection of lead and other contaminants in the water, and remedial steps that could be undertaken by the public, and including emails sent to or received by:
 - (a) Dan Wyant, former Director, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, or members of his staff; and
 - (b) employees of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.
- (3) For the period from January 2011 to the present, please provide all documents relating to the drinking water supply in Flint, the decision to switch Flint's source of water, the Karegnondi Water Authority and/or the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and including emails sent to or received by:
 - (a) Howard Croft, former Director, Flint Department of Public Works, and members of his staff.

Please provide these documents as soon as possible, but by no later than noon on February 11, 2016.

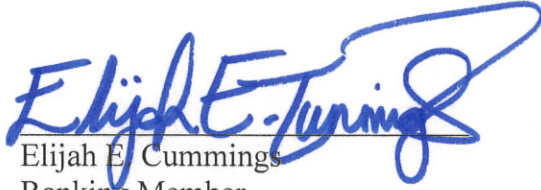
The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and may at "any time" investigate "any matter" as set forth in House Rule X.

When producing documents to the Committee, please deliver production sets to the Majority staff in room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format.


The Honorable Rick Snyder, Governor of Michigan
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Please contact Beverly Britton Fraser at (202) 225-5051 with any questions about this request. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member



Brenda Lawrence
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior

cc. The Honorable Jason E. Chaffetz, Chairman
The Honorable Cynthia Lummis, Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior