



LITTLE HOCKING WATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Website: www.littlehockingwater.org

June, 2004

NOTICE OF CONTAMINATION

The purpose of this notice is to officially notify you that February, 2004 test results show levels of C8 in the Little Hocking Water Association's ("Little Hocking") production wells as high as 10.10 parts per billion (ppb) in production well no. 5, which has not been used since 2002; 1.87 ppb in production well no. 3; 5.48 ppb in production well no. 2; and 5.39 ppb in production well no. 1. In light of this continuing problem, Little Hocking reminds you that **DRINKING OR OTHERWISE USING WATER CONTAMINATED WITH C8 MAY POSE SERIOUS HEALTH RISKS AND, UNTIL A RESOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IS SECURED, YOU ARE USING THIS WATER AT YOUR OWN RISK.**

Background

In August 2001, a class action lawsuit was filed in a West Virginia state court against DuPont on behalf of those who have ingested or otherwise been significantly exposed to contaminated water as a result of the acts and omissions of DuPont, including the release of a chemical called ammonium perfluorooctanoate, commonly referred to as APFO, PFOA, or C8. C8 has been used by DuPont's Washington Works facility in Wood County, West Virginia since the early 1950s as part of its manufacturing processes that includes the production of Teflon.

Under a November 2001 agreement with two West Virginia agencies, DuPont began sampling water supplies along the Ohio River in December 2001, which included our production wells. **The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) notified Little Hocking in January 2002 that sampling results indicated C8 concentrations up to 7.69 ppb in our groundwater supplies.** Since then Little Hocking's production wells have been tested regularly for C8.

To date, neither the federal or state governments have established either air or water pollution standards for C8. However, to summarize what Little Hocking has learned so far, **DuPont, in the late 1980s or early 1990s, established a "community exposure guideline" for C8 of 1 part per billion.** However, recently, as part of the West Virginia agreement, industry/governmental consultants were charged with developing an "exposure guideline" for C8 in water. **In August 2002, the West Virginia agreement consultants reported a health protective screening level for C8 in water of 150 parts per billion.**

Therefore, while the levels of C8 detected in our water supply are below the consultant- established guideline, they are higher than the 1 part per billion exposure guideline developed by DuPont in the late 1980s or early 1990s (e.g. the most recent samples show C8 levels up to 10.10 ppb in Little Hocking's water supply). In light of recent revelations about C8 contamination and its possible health effects, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is currently assessing the toxicity of the chemical.

Possible Health Risks Associated With C8

Little Hocking believes it is important to inform you of the dangers that we are aware of that are associated with exposure to C8. While the risks associated with C8 remain under study, Little Hocking is currently aware of the following major issues:

- PFOA is **widely found in human blood and does not appear to break down in the environment;**
- On April 14, 2003, the U.S. EPA issued its "Preliminary Risk Assessment of the Developmental Toxicity Associated with Exposure to Perfluorooctanoic Acid and its Salts." The Preliminary Risk Assessment indicates potential nationwide human exposure to low levels of PFOA and that there could be a **potential risk of developmental and other adverse effects** associated with these exposures in humans. Because of uncertainties associated with the Preliminary Risk Assessment, U.S. EPA has been gathering additional data for the past several months. A final risk assessment is expected to be released this year;
- Studies cited by an organization called the Environmental Working Group indicate that C8 may cause **testicular, breast, liver, and prostate cancer, as well as hypothyroidism**, a condition that can impair the brain development, leading to hearing loss, and impaired growth and intellectual development;
- The class action suit against DuPont has exposed that DuPont withheld health related documents about C8 only recently made available to Little Hocking, including the attached 2001 email from a DuPont attorney indicating the **underreporting** of C8 test results. The withheld documents also indicate that, in 1981, DuPont reassigned certain women female workers after discovering a potential link between C8 and **birth defects**.

The Board of Trustees and staff of Little Hocking, together with its consultants and lawyers, are working hard to obtain complete information related to C8 and the scope of contamination (including the possibility of other contaminants). Little Hocking is also researching alternative sources of water and possible treatment options. ***Nevertheless, please be aware that, until a resolution to this problem is secured, you are drinking or otherwise using water containing C8 and that you do so knowing of possible health risks.*** To keep you apprised of the status of the issue, we will continue to post updated information on our website at www.littlehockingwater.org. You can also contact us for additional information:

Little Hocking Water Association, Inc
Attn: Robert L Griffin
3998 State Route 124
P.O. Box 188
Little Hocking, OH 45742
(740) 989-2181

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Little Hocking thanks you for your patience as we work toward a resolution of this issue and we regret any inconvenience these circumstances may cause.

Very Truly Yours,
**Little Hocking Water
Association, Inc.**

By *Robert L. Griffin*
Robert L. Griffin, P.E.
General Manager

AR226-1677

From Bernard J Reilly on 05/07/2001 08:38 AM
To r13315@usma.edu
cc maz@wilmingtontrust.com, esipia@thefoliogroup.com, rmreilly@bellatlantic.net
Subject May 7

Hi Bern

Lovely day, was chilly with frost at 0430. Otto and I ran under a moon so full it cast clear shadows, very pretty. Mom and I thinned bushes yesterday afternoon, even less fun than it sounds like, also spread a lot of mulch. The area above the driveway now looks great. Cut off some branches of the crab apple that had tent worms, might be a big year for them. Still lots of mulching to do, but some of the most annoying parts now behind us. We then did cow on the grill, with tortalinis, great. Otto enjoyed being outside with us, eventually barking at me to throw his toys, can't find the Frisbee, his favorite and also the kindest on my arm.

I have not heard from Erin so assume their potty works, need to get that cabinet put together so they can measure the counter top. They must deliver the chipper to NJ, need to schedule that trip maybe some evening this week. Also must schedule getting my tooth cap installed, hopefully today so I can coordinate with getting Otto out of his cage, since mom working. I washed his cage bedding last week, made a big mess, apparently failed to shake out all the residual poop. Mom had to do over again, and stunning amount of black hair.

Got a call about 2130 when in bed last night from one of our engineers worrying about our technique for measuring surfactant at Parkersburg. We learned recently that our analytical technique has very poor recovery, often 25%, so any results we get should be multiplied by a factor of 4 or even 5. However, that has not been the practice, so we have been telling the agencies results that surely are low. Not a pretty situation, especially since we have been telling the drinking water folks not to worry, results have been under the level we deem "safe" of 1 ppb. We now fear we will get data from a better technique that will exceed the number we have touted as safe. Ugh.

Time to roll, hope all well, bring everything under the sun to the Baja competition spare parts, welder, tools, brains, etc.

Love -Dad, Mom, Erin, Jen, Cass, Reilly, Otto