

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

## MAY 1 8 2018

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: W-15J

The Honorable Karen W. Weaver, Mayor City of Flint 1101 South Saginaw Street Flint, Michigan 48502

Mr. Keith Creagh, Director Michigan Department of Natural Resources Constitution Hall 525 West Allegan Street P.O. Box 30028 Lansing, MI 48909

Re:

Mayor Weaver's Letter to EPA Regarding the Cancellation of the April 20, 2018 FWICC Meeting

Dear Mayor Weaver and Director Creagh:

I write in response to Mayor Weaver's April 27, 2018 letter to EPA regarding the State of Michigan's cancellation of the April 20, 2018 meeting of the Flint Water Interagency Coordination Committee (FWICC). It is my understanding that the State cancelled the meeting because of the City's announcement that it is considering possible legal action against the State.

As you know, the FWICC was formed under EPA's January 21, 2016 Emergency Order, which requires that Respondents jointly engage an Independent Advisory Panel (IAP). EPA believes the FWICC should provide support while the City continues its efforts to improve water infrastructure throughout its distribution system. EPA understands that the City and State may have diverging opinions on recovery-related issues. Notwithstanding these differences, the Order requires that the Respondents continue to utilize the IAP process, and EPA believes the continuation of the FWICC process, including holding regularly scheduled meetings, will be of value to the Respondents and the City's residents. I urge the City and State to determine the most effective way to move forward with holding FWICC meetings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 353-8320 or <u>korleski.christopher@epa.gov</u> with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding this letter and the requirements of EPA's Order.

Sincerely,

Christopher Korleski Director, Water Division cc: Ms. Cathy Stepp, Regional Administrator, EPA

Mr. Dan Kildee, 5th District Congressman, State of Michigan

Mr. Richard Baird, Michigan Governor's Office

Ms. C. Heidi Grether, Director, MDEQ

Ms. Amy Epkey, Environment Deputy Director, MDEQ

Mr. Eric Oswald, Director, Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division, MDEQ