TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

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East Hampton, New York 11937

KATHEE BURKE-GONZALEZ
Town Supervisor

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August 12, 2026

James V. McDonald, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237

Gregson H. Pigott, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner of Health Services
Suffolk County Department of Health Services
3500 Sunrise Highway
Building 200, Suite 124
P.O. Box 9006
Great River, NY 11739-9006

Jeffrey W. Szabo
Chief Executive Officer
Suffolk County Water Authority
4060 Sunrise Highway
Oakdale, NY 11769

RE: Resident Questions Regarding the East Hampton Water Contamination Investigation

Dear Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Pigott, and Mr. Szabo:

As the investigation into the contamination affecting wells in East Hampton continues, residents have raised a number of questions about public health, groundwater monitoring, the operation of affected public water wells, and how information is being shared with the community.

The questions below reflect questions and concerns the Town has received directly from residents, including at public meetings and through communications with Town officials. We are sharing them with your respective agencies so that the community can receive clear answers directly from the agencies with the appropriate expertise and authority. Where a question reflects a resident's understanding of events or information, we ask that your agencies confirm, clarify, or correct that understanding as appropriate.

We would appreciate responses to the following questions so that the information provided can be shared with the community.

New York State Department of Health

1. Residents on private wells and public water are concerned they have been ingesting PFPrA for over three years. How can the New York State Department of Health facilitate regular medical testing and health monitoring of residents? Residents have specifically requested biomonitoring, PFAS blood testing to establish a baseline for future tests, and a formal epidemiologic study.

Suffolk County Department of Health Services

1. What measures are being taken to predict and monitor the plume's movement and prevent it from reaching additional wells?
2. Why isn't the current well-testing information readily accessible to the community?
3. How is the contamination plume being tracked?
    - Is it moving?
    - How are agencies watching for impacts to additional wells?
4. What is being done to stop or contain the contamination?

Suffolk County Water Authority

1. Under what circumstances could an affected or contaminated SCWA well, including the fourth affected well, be brought back into service, either routinely or in an emergency?
    - Who would authorize that decision?
    - What would the water be used for?
    - Would residents be notified before the well was activated?
    - If so, would that notice say whether the water was for firefighting or drinking water?
2. Residents believe wells were contaminated with PFPrA in 2023 but did not go offline until January 2026. Is this correct?
3. Why did SCWA decide to test these wells for PFPrA in January 2026?
    - Were these the only wells tested for PFPrA?
4. Residents have said they first learned of the contamination through local media. How will residents be notified about new detections, increases in contaminant levels, treatment changes, well shutdowns, emergency activation, or changes in which wells supply their homes?
5. How will residents be notified if something changes? For example, a new detection, another well shutting down, or an affected well being put back into service.

6. Why aren't residents being provided filters?

Thank you for your continued work and cooperation. We respectfully ask that your responses be provided in a form that can be shared directly with the community and posted on the Town's website.

Sincerely,

cc: Governor Kathy Hochul
County Executive Edward P. Romaine
Senator Anthony Palumbo
Assemblyman Tommy John Schiovoni
Legislator Ann Welker
Mayor Jerry Larsen
Suffolk County Water Authority Chairman Charles A. Lefkowitz
East Hampton Town Board
Robert Calarco, Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs – Long Island
Stevens Martinez, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs – Long Island
Thalia Olaya, Suffolk County Regional Representative
East Hampton Town Administrator Rebecca Hansen
East Hampton Town Attorney Jacob Turner
Nick Rigano, Esq.
East Hampton Town Public Information Officer Patrick Derenze