



May 22, 2019

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Center for Environmental Exposure and Disease
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Dear Dr. Laumbach,

Thank you for the opportunity to support your proposal to the CDC for your proposed project, "Exposure to PFNA and Other PFAS in Drinking Water and Associations with Health-Related Outcomes in Gloucester County NJ." Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) has been working on the problems posed by the presence of perfluorinated compounds in our local environment since 2005 when our staff collected tap water samples in the neighborhoods close to DuPont's Chambers Works facility in Deepwater, New Jersey on the Delaware River. We suspected that there may be a problem because of news reports about a lawsuit that had been brought in West Virginia against DuPont for releasing PFOA into the environment there. Our sampling revealed the presence of PFOA in the drinking water being used by people in the local community. We later brought to light the presence of PFNA in the drinking water of Paulsboro and West Deptford and nearby communities.

PFAS compounds do not occur naturally. They have been introduced to our drinking water and environment by polluters and will persist unless those who put them there are required to clean the pollution up. In the meantime, many people and their families may be suffering several of the health effects known to be linked to PFAS, and yet blood testing, health studies, and medical monitoring are scarce, not equitably administered, and vastly underfunded.

DRN has been calling for the testing of the human blood of residents who have been drinking this water and living near or working on land that has been contaminated, followed by health studies of the population for many years. We are concerned that members of the Paulsboro/West Deptford and regional community may have health impacts as a result of exposure to PFNA and other PFAS in their drinking water and appreciate the CDC providing this underserved community with this very important opportunity to learn more about exposures and potential health effects.

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Again, we strongly support this proposal. DRN looks forward to continuing to act in an advisory capacity and continue to open doors to community leadership in Paulsboro and the region. We are happy that you are crafting a strong community engagement component to the study, and we look forward to working with you on this very important study.

Good luck with your proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tracy Carluccio". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracy Carluccio
Deputy Director