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County Board Chair, Monica Kruse

March 10, 2021

Via UNITED STATES MAIL & EMAIL

Secretary Preston D. Cole
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: City of La Crosse, Wisconsin – PFAS

Dear Secretary Cole:

On behalf of La Crosse County, this letter is written in support of the request by the Mayor of the City of La Crosse concerning the polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS") contamination impacting the City of La Crosse and surrounding communities. As the Mayor's letter stated, our community is in need of a coordinated strategy by the State of Wisconsin to address the public health hazard presented by PFAS contamination

The County and our Public Health Department have been following this situation as it has evolved and we recognize that this contamination represents a significant public health hazard to the public and is beyond the scope of our department to respond. We ask to participate in any meeting with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") to discuss these issues along with the City of La Crosse.

We strongly believe that State leadership on these issues is critical. The contamination affects areas in the City of La Crosse, the Town of Campbell and La Crosse County.

Our community cannot meet this challenge without substantial State assistance. As the City has identified, we request that the State quickly provide the following:

1. Immediate testing to determine the extent of the PFAS contamination
2. Assessment of the sources of the contamination
3. Provision of temporary water to all affected residents pursuant to NR 738; and
4. Work with the community to design a long-term solution to providing clean water to La Crosse area residents and to remediate the contamination.

Sincerely,

Monica Kruse
County Board Chair

212 6th Street North
Suite 2400
La Crosse, WI 54601-3200

608-785-9563 Phone
608-785-5922 Fax
Lacrossecounty.org Web