

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

July 23, 2021

The Honorable Michael S. Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Administrator Regan,


We were concerned to learn of the elevated levels of lead in drinking water in certain homes in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Ensuring the safety of all of the citizens of West Virginia is of the utmost importance to us. We write to request immediate assistance from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in providing support for residents served by the Clarksburg Water System (“the System”) as the System works to comply with the Emergency Administrative Order (“Emergency Order”) issued by the Agency and the notice of violation issued by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR).

We request that EPA take a number of measures and respond to questions outlined below to ensure that residents of Clarksburg have access to safe drinking water and that these efforts are transparent and accountable:

1. Exercise immediate authorities, such as those available to the Administrator under Section 1442(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), to assist with emergencies involving public water systems by providing grants to the System. If authorities under this section have not been invoked, then what authority has EPA used to provide assistance?
2. Collaborate with the State of West Virginia, including the WVDHHR, and the System to assist in complying with the Emergency Order, including efforts to coordinate sampling activities as well as provide general sampling assistance. If EPA is not presently working with the State and the System to provide sampling assistance, then how will EPA take action to provide support?
3. Provide bottled water and point-of-use filters to impacted residents served by the System. If EPA has not assisted in obtaining bottled water and point-of-use filters for impacted residents, then what help has EPA provided thus far?

The Clarksburg Water System serves approximately 18,000 residents via 8,500 service connections. Additionally, the System serves as a water supply for a number of other public water systems in the area, which service an additional 38,000 people. The requests and questions highlighted above will go a long way toward assuring Clarksburg’s residents that their drinking water is safe. We look forward to working with you to resolve this matter quickly.

Sincerely,



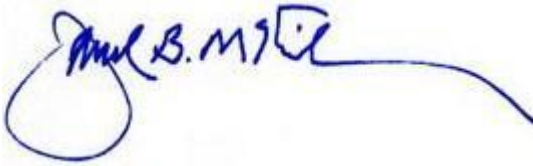
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Joe Manchin III  
U.S. Senator



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Shelley Moore Capito  
U.S. Senator



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David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress