



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

July 13, 2018

The Honorable Bill Schuette
Attorney General
State of Michigan
P.O. Box 30212
G. Mennan Williams Building, 7th Floor
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Attorney General Schuette:

The State of Michigan is investigating and addressing the presence of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), particularly perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), in the environment. As of the date of this letter, these substances have been detected at levels requiring remediation activities to protect water resources and the public health at 33 locations throughout the State. Testing continues at numerous other locations, including all public water supplies and 461 schools that operate their own drinking water wells, to determine if remediation activities are required. In undertaking these activities, the State has incurred significant costs, which will continue into the future.

The human health impacts of exposure to PFAS are still being studied, although credible research shows that PFAS compounds such as PFOA and PFOS, Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) and Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), can affect the growth, learning, and behavior of infants and young children, interfere with the body's natural hormones and immune system, and increase the risk of certain types of cancer. Studies have also shown these contaminants pose a threat to fish and game, resulting in fish advisories for a number of our State's lakes and rivers. The Environmental Protection Agency recognized the risk posed by these contaminants when it issued Provisional Health Advisories for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water in 2009 and a Life Time Health Advisory in 2016, while the State promulgated rules setting limits in groundwater and surface water in 2011, 2014, and 2018. I issued an Executive Directive that created the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team, placing our State as the nation-wide leader in addressing this emerging public health threat.

The presence of these contaminants in Michigan's environment are directly attributable to the products the 3M Company designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold since the 1960s, including consumer products, such as Scotchgard™, AFFF and AR-AFFF firefighting foam used at military installations and airports, and industrial applications that used the product directly or resulted in a byproduct. Of particular concern is the AFFF, which 3M sold to the Department of Defense, Michigan National Guard, and numerous municipal airports and fire departments, where the product was discharged into the environment. It is generally understood 3M was aware of the nature of its products and the threats they posed to public health. Despite this knowledge, 3M continued to manufacture, market, and sell its products containing the contaminant without disclosing to its customers and regulatory agencies the threat they posed to the general public.

To recover the costs incurred by the State, along with compensating for the corresponding environmental harm and public health threat, I ask that you immediately initiate a lawsuit on behalf of the State of Michigan in the appropriate forum against 3M and all other responsible parties.

Sincerely,



Rick Snyder
Governor