

## Ciccione, John

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**From:** Sinclair, Cheryl (P.G.)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** Gene  
**Cc:** Matt Wise; Matthew Brennan; Steve Dershem; Benner Township; Kerry Benninghoff; Stephanie Borowicz; James Coslo; rmw4@yahoo.com; Farmerie, Randy; Ciccione, John  
**Subject:** Response regarding Benner Township PFAS inquiry  
**Attachments:** Final Benner web update 4-15.pdf; Benner Township PFAS HSCA Investigation - Fact Sheet final.pdf; Benner Twp Investigation Update Feb 2022 with Map (003).pdf

Good morning,

Please see the attached information that we have been drafting for our latest website update. I believe it will answer most of your questions. As a reminder, here is the link to our project-specific web page: [Benner Township HSCA Investigation \(pa.gov\)](#). Also attached for your quick reference are the two Fact Sheets that had previously been provided.

DEP recognizes that you and others have many questions about our ongoing PFAS investigation in Benner Township. We strive to keep the townships and our public website updated to provide new information as it is received. Please note that since we became aware of the PFAS contamination in residential wells in February 2022, we have sampled 44 wells in total and continue to collect further samples.

Your question regarding funding is not addressed in the attached update. Funding is not an issue regarding this investigation. Money provided through PA DEP's Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund (or HSCA) is being utilized for the contractor and sampling costs as well as the bottled water deliveries.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out by e-mail or phone with your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl

Cheryl Sinclair, P.G. (she/her/hers) | Environmental Group Manager  
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Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields  
Northcentral Regional Office  
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DEP is now accepting permit and authorization applications, as well as other documents and correspondence, electronically through the OnBase Electronic Forms Upload tool. Please use the link below to view the webpage, get instructions, and submit documents:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/DataandTools/Pages/Application-Form-Upload.aspx>

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**From:** Gene <gypsy11@prodigy.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 10:10 PM  
**To:** Sinclair, Cheryl (P.G.) <csinclair@pa.gov>  
**Cc:** Matt Wise <mwise@pasen.gov>; Matthew Brennan <matthew.brennan@mail.house.gov>; Steve Dershem

<dscguns@hotmail.com>; Benner Township <BENNERTWP@aol.com>; Kerry Benninghoff <Kbenning@pahousegop.com>; Stephanie Borowicz <Sborowicz@pahousegop.com>; James Coslo <jrcoslo@centrecountygov.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Gene Stocker

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Email to Gene Stocker with a follow up response.

> On Apr 13, 2022, at 1:42 PM, Sinclair, Cheryl (P.G.) <[csinclair@pa.gov](mailto:csinclair@pa.gov)> wrote:

>

> Good afternoon Gene,

>

> DEP is in the process of planning and setting up our next steps as we proceed with our ongoing investigation. We do intend to collect additional soil samples, but we have not at this time collected or scheduled any sampling of the areas you've mentioned.

>

> Please let us know if you have any other questions.

>

> Cheryl

>

> Cheryl Sinclair, P.G. (she/her/hers) | Environmental Group Manager

Cheryl,

In response to your email I received today I'd like to ask a few more questions and include a few comments for my benefit and the public officials copied on this email,

**Regarding the need for expedited PFAS testing of wells and soils in the Big Hollow/Walnut Grove Estates area lying adjacent to University Park Airport**

Cheryl Sinclair, PaDep

I'm not sure what you mean in your response by saying, "We do intend to collect additional soil samples, but we have not at this time collected or scheduled any sampling of the areas you've mentioned."

Since nothing has been either "collected or scheduled" to be collected in this area can we assume that these areas are not included in any plans going forward? If that is the case somebody owes us an explanation.

How many soil samples have been taken? Where were they taken from and what results are known?

How many wells still need tested?

How many have been tested already?

What percent of tested wells came back 70ppt or higher

Of the remaining how many will likely be above the new MCL

Has every homeowner been offered clean water for drinking and cooking or only those exceeding the HAL of 70. BTW I wasn't offered anything even though my well was double the HAL and was many times over the MCL for EDB, another chemical that was found in my well which is a component of aviation fuel. Is there a formula that is used to determine who gets assistance?

This email should not be viewed as an indictment of University Park Airport. The source of these chemicals will hopefully be identified. The only indictment here is the lack of solutions to deliver clean water to neighbors around the airport and guard against any environmental degradation.

Can we expedite soil and water testing with more people in the field and more labs? Is this a funding issue? If PaDep is restricted by a lack of funding I would like to know what the shortfall is. I will personally lead an effort to raise private funds and solicit public grants at all levels from the Township to EPA. I know you are working as hard as you can to complete the well testing, the most important part but, how long has this taken, 2 years?

Most of our elected officials, if not all, are aware of this situation and will be copied on this email.

Cheryl, we need your help. I received 2 calls today from distressed neighbors, one whose husband had prostate cancer and one with complications from prostate cancer that was life flighted to Hershey **today**. Other neighbors have experienced cancers and several have died. These numbers may fall within a normal range but you can easily understand the anxiety levels and frustration over a process that has been so very long. Should we arrange a town hall meeting with the Pa Dept of Health to answer questions and provide guidance?

I know you are going as fast as you can but you are lifting a lot of weight.

Thank you for supporting us.

Gene Stocker

Please excuse grammatical errors as this was sent from my iPhone. Have a great great day!