

## STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY LANSING



DIRECTOR

December 11, 2017

## VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Christopher Korleski, Director Water Division United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard (W-15J) Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Korleski:

SUBJECT: Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act Funding –

City of Flint

I am writing in response to your letter dated December 7, 2017, regarding Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act funding awarded to the city of Flint (City) for addressing lead or other contaminants, including repair and replacement of the City's public water system infrastructure.

Since mid-November when the City's final water source decision was made, the City and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) have meet on multiple occasions to discuss steps to expedite progress moving forward. The MDEQ is encouraged by the City's hiring of a program manager and is looking forward to reviewing a draft project plan that includes drinking water infrastructure improvements in early February as is proposed. The MDEQ and the program manager are scheduled to meet next week.

To date, the City has requested reimbursement for roughly 78 percent of the construction costs related to 6,000 plus service lines that have been excavated and/or replaced. This amount includes reimbursement from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) as well as WIIN. The MDEQ continues to encourage the City to submit timely reimbursements. We do not anticipate receiving requests for all restoration costs until the spring.

We remain focused on our cooperative work to improve the infrastructure in the City.

If you have questions, or if I can be of assistance, please contact me at 517-284-6544; oswalde1@michigan.gov; or MDEQ, DWMAD, P.O. Box 30817, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741.

Sincerely.

Eric Oswald, Director

Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division

517-284-6544

Mr. Christopher Korleski Page 2 December 11, 2017

cc: Mr. Robert Kaplan, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency The Honorable Karen W. Weaver, Mayor, City of Flint

Mr. Keith Creagh, Director, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Ms. C. Heidi Grether, Director, MDEQ

Ms. Amy Epkey, Administration Deputy Director, MDEQ

Ms. Sonya Butler, MDEQ Ms. Kelly Green, MDEQ