

To President and members of the Board
From Robert J. Kennedy
Date 3/14/18
Subject Request for Water Monitoring and Testing Study

1. Lewes water is tested annually by the State and test results show that our water system had no violations and that our drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.
2. Recent newspaper reports regarding the contaminants [perfluorinated compounds (PFCs)] found in the City of Blades water supply suggest that the State does not regularly test all public water suppliers (including BPW) for contaminants not covered by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.
3. Blades water contamination was detected only after the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested the water be tested due to the wells' proximity to historic industrial plants. (WBOC DNREC Investigating Blades Water...<http://www.wboc.com/story/37474155/dnrec-investigating-blades-water-contamination-as-residents-express-concern>)
4. Jamie Mack, DPH Health Systems Protection acting section chief was quoted as saying "While this is a not a contaminant regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, DPH is working to support DNREC and others to ensure we are being protective of the health of people in the area."
5. The BPW has in the past publicly expressed concerns with possible future contamination of the unconfined Columbia Aquifer from which we draw our water due to future planned development within our aquifer recharge area (i.e. Village Center).

6. While there is no indication that aquifer from which we extract water contains similar contaminants to those found in the Blades water supply I think it is prudent that we begin a program of active monitoring of the condition of our aquifer now prior to new development using a more stringent water quality criteria than that currently used by DNREC and the DPH.

5. I recommend that our water be tested immediately by an independent testing company and regularly thereafter so that we can respond to any change in the quality of the water taken from our aquifer before it enters our distribution system.