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CITY OF MONROE RECEIVES PFAS SAMPLE RESULTS

Monroe, Michigan – The City of Monroe Water Department has released the results of recent per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) testing. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has been carrying out a statewide initiative to test drinking water from all schools that use well water and community water supplies. The test is looking for a group of manmade chemicals called PFAS. MDEQ is taking this precautionary step of testing these drinking water sources to determine if public health actions are needed.

The City of Monroe water system was tested by AECOM, MDEQ's contractor. The test results show that perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) had no detection (ND) and 3 parts per trillion (ppt) found in the water.

City of Monroe water test results are well below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) lifetime health advisory (LHA). The EPA set a LHA level for two of the PFAS substances in drinking water, PFOA and PFOS. The LHA level is 70 parts per trillion (ppt, equal to 70 ng/L) for PFOA and PFOS combined, or individually if only one is present. The EPA has not set health advisory levels for other PFAS compounds. The State of Michigan is using 70 ppt for decision making purposes. Full test results can be found on the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team website, www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse.

It is not uncommon to find low levels of PFAS in drinking water supplies, as PFAS can be found in fire-fighting foams, stain repellants, nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, food wrappers, and many other household products. They do not break down in the environment and move easily into water.

The City of Monroe Water Department is committed to providing customers with quality drinking water. The City is working closely with the MDEQ to maintain drinking water quality and will continue to be active on any new PFAS information as it becomes available. Based on the test results being well below the LHA and of a minimum risk level there are no plans to install technology to reduce PFAS further, the water is safe for consumption.

For health related questions, contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) at 1-800-648-6942 or visit one of the websites below. For information on PFAS including possible health outcomes, visit these websites:

- State of Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) website serving as the main resource for public information on PFAS contamination in Michigan www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ASTDR) website including health information, exposure, and links to additional resources www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) website including basic information, U.S. EPA actions, and links to informational resources www.epa.gov/pfas

Incorporated in 1817, the City of Monroe is a community that has a shared vision that seeks to balance the opportunities of economic development with the stewardship that is required for historic preservation. With a population of 20,733, Monroe is located about 17-miles north of Toledo, Ohio and about 35-miles south of Detroit. The City of Monroe is Michigan's third oldest community, and is also the county seat of Monroe County.

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