



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

October 2, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Mr. Brian Slodysko
Indiana State Capitol Correspondent
The Associated Press
bslodysko@ap.org

Re: Public Records Request 17-22

Dear Mr. Slodysko:

Enclosed herewith are copies of records responsive to the public records request you sent pursuant to Indiana's Access to Public Records Act ("APRA"), which requested the following:

All records and emails addressing the subject of East Chicago lead contamination that were routed through private and official email addresses maintained by former Gov. Mike Pence, between 7/1/2016 and 12/31/2016, that also include any of the following people on the chain: Matt Lloyd, Josh Pitcock, Jim Atterholt, Chris Crabtree, Cary "Lani" Czarniecki, Anthony Copeland, Danielle McGrath, and Kara Brooks.

As a courtesy, we are providing responsive records to you free-of-charge. To clarify, the Governor's Office is in receipt of emails produced electronically by the former governor from his email accounts and searched those accounts for documents to/from/cc Matt Lloyd, Josh Pitcock, Jim Atterholt, Chris Crabtree, Cary "Lani" Czarniecki, Anthony Copeland, Danielle McGrath, and Kara Brooks, in the relevant time period, containing the terms "East Chicago" or "lead contamination."

Certain records, and/or portions of records, have been withheld from disclosure, and are not being produced in this response, in accordance with, and as permitted by, the laws of the State of Indiana, as follows: Indiana Code § 5-14-3-4(b)(6), records that are advisory or deliberative material. The person responsible for the denial and/or withholding of records, or portions thereof, is Mr. Joseph R. Heerens, General Counsel.

In the interest of time and providing you with records as soon as reasonably possible, the enclosed copies of emails are being produced to you on a rolling basis as our office's review of these records is completed; and this production may be supplemented as additional responsive records are located and/or reviewed.

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Our office is continuing its work to respond to the unusually large number of records requests pending at this time, and we appreciate your continued patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Wilson".

Stephanie Wilson
Press Secretary

Enclosures

cc: File

From: Mike Pence
Sent: Fri 10/07/2016 8:15 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: LG to Visit East Chicago on Saturday

Good work

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 7, 2016, at 12:47 PM, McGrath, Danielle <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

Governor –

Today the Indiana State Department of Health announced that they will be setting up a One-Stop Shop this Saturday in East Chicago to assist community members in a variety of new ways. In addition to blood lead testing, individuals will now be able to obtain birth certificates and immunizations at no cost. Additionally, the BMV will be onsite to provide state-issued ID cards. Navigators will also be there to help individuals sign up for health insurance.

If you recall, this is similar to the service we provided in Scott County, which was very well received. Given this is a new initiative, LG Holcomb will be visiting East Chicago tomorrow (Saturday) to be briefed by members of the Administration and other local and federal partners who may be present that day. In addition to Saturday, the One Stop Shop will be operating several other days throughout the month of October. Future dates beyond that are still to be determined.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Danielle

Danielle McGrath, APR
Deputy Chief of Staff
Legislative Affairs/Executive Branch Agencies
Office of Governor Mike Pence

Phone: 317-234-5339
Email: DMcGrath@gov.in.gov

From: McGrath, Danielle
Sent: Fri 12/09/2016 10:38 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Governor Pence (mpence1959@aol.com)" <mpence1959@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: East Chicago Update

Governor Pence —

Recently EPA Region 5 officials disclosed preliminary drinking water sample data collected by the EPA at homes located in zones 2 and 3 of the USS Lead Superfund site in East Chicago. The data showed homes had lead levels in excess of the action level. It is our understanding that the lead may possibly be leaching from the utility service lines and interior home plumbing. These homes are already being provided with bottled water and water filters by EPA.

As the data is still preliminary, the EPA is on point for communicating the results to residents following analysis and quality checks. However, we found out last night that Mayor Copeland pre-emptively announced the results via an op-ed on the City's public access channel's Facebook page yesterday. For your reference, I've included an article from the NWI Times describing the letter below.

We will continue to keep you apprised of this matter as IDEM and ISDH learn more. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Danielle

NWI Times: East Chicago mayor: Elevated lead levels in drinking water for some homes

EAST CHICAGO — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has discovered elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes in the eastern portions of the USS Lead Superfund site, according to a letter to the editor penned by the city's mayor and published Thursday night on the city's public access channel's Facebook page.

Steve Segura, director of multimedia at ECTV, confirmed Thursday night the authenticity of Mayor Anthony Copeland's letter.

The EPA, according to Copeland, will start releasing this data to residents Friday.

In the letter, Copeland states that up to 18 of the 45 homes tested had at least one water sample that exceeded the standard of 15 parts per billion for lead in drinking water.

The EPA in November announced the federal agency would conduct a number of pilot programs, including the testing of drinking water at properties undergoing excavation work in zones 2 and 3 of the USS Lead Superfund site.

"The City of East Chicago's water supply continues to meet all state and federal water quality standards, including the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule," the mayor stated in his letter
Phone calls placed to City Attorney Carla Morgan were not returned Thursday night. A phone call and email to EPA spokeswoman Rachel Bassler were not immediately returned.

The EPA listed the entire Calumet neighborhood as part of the USS Lead Superfund site in April 2009. Local, state and federal agencies are now grappling with the city's long industrialized history with a sense of urgency following this summer's discovery of dangerously high levels of lead in the soil of the site.

Soil testing in the area began decades ago. Two lead smelter operations also once operated on the site of the public housing complex and the school.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/crime-and-court/east-chicago-mayor-unsafe-lead-levels-in-drinking-water-for/article_e050fa5b-64a6-5215-946c-b06d849d977d.html?utm_content=buffer6e38b&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=LEEDCC

Danielle McGrath, APR
Deputy Chief of Staff
Legislative Affairs/Executive Branch Agencies
Office of Governor Mike Pence

Phone: 317-234-5339
Email: DMcGrath@gov.in.gov

From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Mon 8/29/2016 11:52 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Mike Pence" <mpence1959@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: NWI editorial

EDITORIAL: Current, prospective state leaders shamefully absent at E.C. lead crisis
NWI Times

Compassion shouldn't just be on display when it's politically expedient.

And people who profess a desire to lead should step into the fray, even when they have nothing political to gain.

These lessons are apparent right now as we consider how current and prospective Hoosier leaders are — or more accurately are not — responding to the lead crisis in East Chicago.

Some 1,200 East Chicago residents are in the midst of being relocated from the city's public, low-income West Calumet housing complex because of toxic lead and arsenic levels in the soil.

The EPA and city leaders are working to fund the move, a school has been evacuated and deemed unfit for use and people's daily lives — and possibly long-term health — have been put at risk.

Yet you wouldn't know it on the campaign trails for some of the Hoosier state's highest offices.

This woeful showing of compassion for East Chicago is a true bipartisan effort.

Former and prospective future Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh was all too happy earlier this summer to grip and grin for the cameras with Lake County political allies in Hammond.

We even captured a photo of him embracing disgraced East Chicago Mayor Robert Pastrick, the subject of one of the most corrupt political reigns in Region history.

But has Bayh rolled up his sleeves and publicly offered help, compassion or understanding for the residents in crisis in East Chicago? Why hasn't a visit to East Chicago's troubled neighborhood been a part of his campaign itinerary?

We were touched this week to see Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, now the Republican nominee for vice president, visiting, embracing and helping downstate Kokomo residents after horrific tornadoes tore through their community.

Equally powerful were images of Pence and his presidential running mate, Donald Trump, passing out supplies in flood-ravaged Louisiana.

But East Chicago is also part of the Hoosier state, and we're talking about a public health crisis displacing more than 1,000 people and an entire elementary school.

What message does it send when a sitting governor will visit a downstate disaster nearer to his power base but not a Northwest Indiana city experiencing its own major crisis?

We haven't seen Democrat John Gregg visiting East Chicago's crisis zone — or GOP gubernatorial contender and sitting Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb, either.

Nor have we seen the GOP's U.S. Senate candidate Todd Young, who faces Bayh in November.

Good leaders don't pick and choose their compassionate responses based on political expediency. They respond, in good times and bad, to their entire constituency because it's the right thing to do.

The East Chicago lead crisis has been unfolding for an entire summer. The shameful bipartisan absence of visits by the state's top current and prospective leaders speaks volumes.

Matt Lloyd
Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications and Strategy
Governor Mike Pence
317-8[REDACTED] (cell)