



RESOLUTION # 34-12/23

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 12-20

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 25
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 5
Vote Req: -
Other Action: -

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted:
For: 7
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 0/2

RE: DIRECTING HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE EDUCATION RELATED TO DRILLING INTO THE MT. SIMON AQUIFER.

WHEREAS, there are two aquifers beneath French Island/Town of Campbell and for decades citizens of the Town of Campbell have depended on private wells which have been drilled into the upper sand and gravel aquifer; and

WHEREAS, it is now known that PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) contamination is widespread in the upper sand and gravel aquifer; and

WHEREAS, Town of Campbell residents are currently under a Wisconsin Department of Health advisory which recommends that residents do not ingest water from the contaminated upper aquifer; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the lower sandstone aquifer, named Mt. Simon, is free of PFAS. The Town of Campbell has drilled a "test" well into the Mt. Simon aquifer. State required water quality tests show it could be a safe long-term water source when municipal treatment filtration is applied.

WHEREAS, This "test" well is planned to become part of a Town municipal water system serving all residents with municipal treatment that reduces the levels of other compounds (iron, manganese, radium, etc.) to bring the water quality into compliance with Wisconsin safe water standards; and

WHEREAS, because the Mt. Simon aquifer is currently the only groundwater source in the region known to be PFAS-free, the risk of pulling contamination from the upper sand and gravel aquifer into the deeper sandstone, uncontaminated aquifer is a very serious concern; and

WHEREAS, The County of La Crosse is a Level 1 county which means its Health Department issues well permits for the drilling of private water wells;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in an effort to protect the Mt. Simon water source from being contaminated with PFAS, the La Crosse County Board hereby requires the Health Department to advise anyone who wishes to drill into the sandstone aquifer (from approximately 125-500 feet) on French Island to take precautions identified by the DNR for the Town of Campbell to drill the test well (including casing depth and grouting the well) when drilling through the upper aquifer to reach the Mt. Simon aquifer.

FISCAL NOTE: Any educational materials are expected to be de minimis and will be covered by the Health Department budget in division 200.280.1000.

Date: 12/12/23
Christie L. Jeger
COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 12-12-23
Prof. Buchholz
RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	_____	<u>JK</u>	_____	Requested By: Margaret Larson Date Requested: November 22, 2023 Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Fin. Director	_____	_____	_____	
Corp. Counsel	<u>JK</u>	_____	_____	
Board Chair	_____	_____	_____	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 21 Day of December, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 21st day of December 2023.

Ginny Dankmeyer
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk