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Commissioners: Joseph T. Maney, Chairman Anders F. Youngren Jack D. Adelson Superintendent: John V. Scenna

## MEMORANDUM

To: LCWD Board of Commissioners

From: John V. Scenna, Superintendent, Lynnfield Center Water District

cc. Shannon Cuddy, Treasurer, LCWD

Date: January 24, 2022

## Re: Bottled Water Rebate Program

Recently, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a new drinking water regulation that limits the sum of six PFAS compounds (known as the PFAS6) to 20 parts per trillion (ppt). The new drinking water standard requires public water suppliers to test for the presence of PFAS6. LCWD's 4th quarter results (the average of October, November and December 2021 monthly results) of 21 ppt exceeded the DEP limits (MCL of 20 ppt). These results were detected, sampled and confirmed at the Station 2 Pump Station, Main Street.

DEP recommends consumers in sensitive populations, including pregnant or nursing women, infants under one year of age and people diagnosed by their health care provider to have a compromised immune system not to consume, drink or cook with water when the level of PFAS6 is above 20 ppt. These individuals are advised to use alternative sources of water such as bottled water tested for PFAS6.

LCWD water modeling also indicates that water supplied from Station 2 is the only direct source in the neighborhood from Lowell Street (Main Street to Peabody), into the Durham Drive, Grey Lane neighborhoods. All other areas of the District have water that is blended with sources that have confirmed PFAS levels below the DEP limits.

As such, it is my recommendation that LCWD offer a residential rebate program only for qualifying customers in the previously mentioned sensitive populations, and also residing in



neighborhoods 100% supplied with water from Station 2. The rebate is intended to offset the cost of purchasing bottled water. The rebate program will work as follows:

- 1. A household/unit with a resident in a sensitive population (defined above) will be eligible for a \$55.00 credit/month (only one credit per household/unit)
- 2. A check will be mailed quarterly for any quarter that Station 2 of the LCWD system is DEP non-compliant.
- 3. Residents must apply annually and attest to the medical conditions and place of residency.

This rebate program is not intended to operate as a guarantee regarding any exposure to PFAS6 and does not imply that it limits exposure to PFAS from other sources, nor does it operate as an admission of liability by the District if exposure to PFAS6 does occur. The District reserves the sole right to change the terms of rebate program at any time through vote of the Board of Commissioners.

To qualify for this rebate program, residents need to attest that they fall into one of sensitive populations defined above. Residents can also provide a letter from a medical professional that confirms a particular medical condition without declaring it. In those instances, residents do not need to specify which group they fall into and why. In all cases, residents will need to identify which individual within a household qualifies for this rebate. Proof of residency by water bill, tax bill or signed lease are applicable as well as birth certificates for children under one year old.

## You can apply for the water rebate through the form located <u>HERE</u>.