



# ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR

JOHN J. KIM, DIRECTOR

October 27, 2023

Tera Fong  
USEPA  
Region 5  
77 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Dear Tera:

Thank you for your letter regarding the City of Elgin. Illinois EPA continues to keep close watch over the lead levels in Elgin's drinking water, and has issued the enclosed letter to the City requesting an update regarding the City's plans to implement the following measures recommended by Illinois EPA and USEPA:

- Offer or deliver a water filter certified under NSF/ANSI-53 (lead reduction) and NSF/ANSI-42 (Class I particulate reduction) to each home with elevated lead in water;
- Continue and enhance outreach to customers about its lead testing and filter programs;
- Follow-up on lead in drinking water testing at Elgin schools and childcare facilities and expanded blood lead level (BLL) outreach and testing;
- Take steps to expedite design, permitting, and installation of optimized corrosion control treatment (CCT); and
- Fully utilize the WIIN Grant: Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction Grant Program, including FY21-FY23 funding, which can support Elgin and other Illinois communities.

The Illinois EPA has requested the City provide water softeners to homes with high lead levels detected in recent monitoring of the City's drinking water. Elgin has stated that it has contracted with 120Water to contact residents by phone call to all homes that have had a five minute exceedance, and have not previously ordered a pitcher filter. Elgin has stated that it will continue to receive weekly updates from 120Water, including details regarding these calls and filters provided. Illinois EPA has asked for updated data regarding filters provided and lead service lines replaced by the City. Please also be advised that Illinois EPA is in the process of reviewing the corrosion control study submitted by Elgin.

Illinois EPA has requested a response from Elgin by November 15, 2023, and will forward the response to your office once it has been received. We appreciate your assistance in this matter, and look forward to continuing to work alongside USEPA and the City of Elgin to advance the efforts to provide safe drinking water to the residents of Elgin.

Sincerely,

*Sanjay Sofat*

Sanjay Sofat  
Manager, Compliance Assurance Section  
Division of Public Water Supplies  
Bureau of Water

Enclosure