

PUBLIC RELEASE

Brighton Township acknowledges EGLE's plan to perform sampling for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on and near the former Collett Dump Site (CDS). In making this acknowledgement, the Township wishes to clarify several points regarding its connection to the CDS. The Township has taken and continues to take the position that it is not liable or responsible under applicable law for conditions on or near the CDS. While reportedly providing nominal rent for residents in the 1960s so that residents would have access to the CDS, the Township never operated that landfill and never expected hazardous materials to be disposed at the CDS. Nevertheless, the Township did enter into a limited settlement in 2009 without making any admission of liability to resolve a sizable cost claim for response costs made by a predecessor of the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE), to provide some limited groundwater monitoring for metals and volatile organic compounds and methane testing, and to impose some restrictions through restrictive covenant and ordinance to limit groundwater use. That settlement in no way involved alleged PFAS releases, which were only investigated for the first time in 2020, based on emerging scientific scrutiny of these compounds which had widespread societal use. The Township has no information to change its opinion that it was not an operator of the CDS. It also has no information at this point to suggest that any alleged PFAS releases are attributable to past residential waste disposal. The Township has informed EGLE of this position on PFAS. In doing so, the Township has indicated that it will cooperate with EGLE's need for access to the CDS and monitoring wells. It also has assured EGLE that it plans to complete the limited monitoring activities remaining under the 2009 settlement agreement. For additional information on the Township's position, you may direct questions and comments to Brian Vick, the Township's manager, 810.494.0710/manger@brightontwp.com.