



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 111TH ATTACK WING  
HORSHAM AIR GUARD STATION PENNSYLVANIA

17 October 2016

Dear Residents,

This letter is to inform you of the actions the Air National Guard (ANG), specifically the 111th Attack Wing at Horsham Air Guard Station is taking in response to PFOS and PFOA water contaminants.

It is important to note that there are many entities in the Department of Defense to include the Navy, the Air Force, and the National Guard Bureau in Washington DC actively engaged and working together to improve the water quality at Horsham Air Guard Station and the former Naval Air Station – Willow Grove. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are intimately engaged in all phases of our actions. I will discuss only our efforts here at the Air Guard Station, but be assured there is open dialogue and regular contact with all of these organizations and everyone is focused on a safe, expeditious, and permanent solution.

Background:

In response to Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) 2005, the Navy departed leaving two separate land elements – 900+/- acres of Navy property to be turned over to Horsham for redevelopment and 220 +/- acres for the ANG to continue military operations.

In 2014, the EPA directed testing for unregulated contaminants to include PFOS and PFOA. We found elevated levels of both chemicals in our well water. We subsequently identified elevated levels of both chemicals in our waste water, and recently in our ground and storm water that exits the Air Guard base into an unnamed tributary that feeds Park Creek.

Actions taken to date:

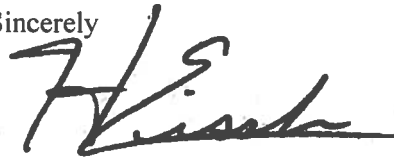
1. Expansion and rehabilitation of existing wells, installation of an entirely new water distribution system, and new sewer infrastructure (i.e. water & sewer lines). This is a \$6.3 million dollar project that will be complete in November.
2. Installation of temporary granular activated carbon (GAC) filters on our wells (\$100,000 annual operating cost). All water from the distribution system on Horsham Air Guard Station is now below the health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion (PPT).
3. Construction of a permanent water treatment facility which will include the GAC filters as well as an ultraviolet (UV) treatment. \$3.2 million dollar project that will produce some of the cleanest water in the area and should be completed by late spring of 2017.
4. Teamed with NGB in DC to enter into a cooperative agreement with Warrington Township to treat their wells and aide in residents' tie into public water. \$5.8 million dollar cooperative agreement with potential to go as high as \$10M.
5. Established a cooperative agreement with Horsham Township for \$250,000 to supplement the Navy as they are the lead organization working with Horsham Township.
6. Established a cooperative agreement with Warminster Township for \$250,000. Again, the Navy is the lead organization.

7. Started a separate filtration project to address our contaminated ground and storm water. This project will begin within the year. While our storm and ground water exiting the base has elevated levels of PFOS and PFOA, the volume of this discharge is relatively low.
8. Established a facility investigation plan which consists of multiple monitoring wells to determine if and where the contaminants may be moving. \$1.6 million dollar contract.
9. Established a \$400,000 contract with the EPA for sampling.

The Air National Guard is a community based organization. Many of our members have been stationed at this installation for decades and are lifelong residents of the local townships. We take these issues very seriously and are moving as quickly as we can to deal with this emerging issue. To date, we, the Air National Guard, have committed nearly \$20 million dollars toward this effort and will continue to work until this issue is resolved.

This is a very brief letter describing our actions. For more information please visit our public website at: <http://www.111attackwing.ang.af.mil/> . At this site you will have access to our water information as well as all the exciting things your Pennsylvania Air National Guardsmen are involved in.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Eissler III". The signature is stylized with a large, prominent "H" and a long, sweeping underline.

HOWARD L. EISSLER III, Colonel, PAANG  
Commander