FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 6, 2018

PFAS Compounds Detected at EightCAP’s Orleans Facility

ORLEANS – EightCAP, Inc. participated in the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team’s (MPART) initiative to proactively test certain water supplies for PFAS contamination. On August 3, MPART shared the test results from water samples taken from the well-supplied water at EightCAP’s Ionia County Outreach Office (5827 Orleans Rd in Orleans) with agency officials. The results indicated that PFAS compounds were present. The facility houses the agency’s Orleans Head Start Center, program intake offices, meeting facilities, and other staff offices.

The results showed no detectable levels of the compounds PFOS and PFOA, the two types of PFAS compounds for which the United States Environmental Protection Agency has established a non-regulatory Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA) levels. However, two PFAS compounds were detected: PFBS at 180ppt, and PFHxA at 2ppt. According to the MDEQ, the USEPA has not set LHA levels for these compounds because not enough is known about them.

“EightCAP is working closely with state and local officials to take immediate steps to eliminate consumption of well water at the facility and to provide notification to the public,” said EightCAP President Dan Petersen. “The notice that EightCAP has received from the state, along with the summary report, have been posted on the EightCAP website, www.8cap.org. EightCAP is committed to providing all staff, clients, and visitors with quality drinking water.”

EightCAP is working with the MPART and the Ionia County Health Department to address the presence of these compounds in its Orleans facility’s water supply. EightCAP will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking immediately, will work with water treatment professionals to discuss long-term measures to reduce the levels in the water supply, and other measures as more information becomes available about these compounds. In addition to a second test to verify the initial results, the agency will also continue to monitor the levels on at least a quarterly basis and cooperate with the MDEQ with regard to additional water testing and the MPART investigation.

Individuals concerned about exposure to PFAS should contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services’ Toxicology Hotline at 800-648-6942. Anyone seeking direct one-on-one assistance or referral to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality network of technical staff should call 800-662-9278 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. You can also send an email to deq-assist@michigan.gov.

For information on PFOS, PFOA, and other PFAS, including possible health outcomes, the MDEQ is directing individuals to the following websites:
• State of Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) website serving as the main resource for public information on PFAS contamination in Michigan: www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse

• United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) website including basic information, USEPA actions, and links to informational resources: www.epa.gov/pfas

• Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) website including health information, exposure, and links to additional resources: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas

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