



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
WARREN DISTRICT OFFICE



PHILLIP D. ROOS  
DIRECTOR

September 12, 2024

Troy Hartz  
City of Caseville  
6767 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 1049  
Caseville, Michigan 48725

WSSN: 01190  
County: Huron

Dear Troy Hartz:

SUBJECT: City of Caseville Discoloration Issue – Engineering Study Recommendation

This letter confirms the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has been made aware of numerous complaints in conjunction with the seasonal discoloration issue in the City of Caseville water system. The complaints have been aesthetic concerns primarily with a few claiming illnesses due to the water. EGLE met with City officials and consultants on August 29, 2024, to inspect the water system and gather information, and continues to monitor and respond to customer complaints to better understand the nature of the problem. From the data shared with EGLE to date, there is evidence that the City's Lake Huron/Saginaw Bay source is being influenced from another source such as ground water or river water.

While the seasonal discoloration issue is concerning, all water quality monitoring and monthly operation reports continue to show the water is meeting primary health standards and required treatment techniques. EGLE has been in frequent contact with City staff to help understand and respond to the discoloration issue. Given the numerous complaints and customers' hesitation to consume the water, it is imperative the City perform a comprehensive engineering study to diagnose the problem and propose solutions. EGLE and/or U.S. EPA's Compliance Assistance Program are available to assist with developing the study scope and a request for proposal, if needed. EGLE funding may also be available to help with study costs.

Please contact this office by **September 27, 2024**, to acknowledge receipt of this letter and to respond to the recommendations provided. The study should be completed **within 12 months** of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at 586.506.6137, or by email at JohnsonS18@Michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Johnson, P.E.  
Surface Water Treatment Specialist

Drinking Water and Environmental  
Health Division  
Community Drinking Water – Engineering Unit

cc: Chris Stahl, Mayor, City of Caseville  
Jamie D. Learman, City Clerk/Office Administrator, City of Caseville  
Patti Atwood, OIC, City of Caseville  
John Tait, City of Caseville  
Clyde Campbell, City of Caseville  
Ben Willenberg, Township Supervisor, Caseville Township  
Shelly Stirrett, Township Clerk, Caseville Township  
Steve Corrion, Superintendent, Village of Pigeon  
Marc Hill, Village of Pigeon  
Huron County Health Department  
Mike Bolf, P.E., Engineering Section Manager, EGLE (via Email)  
Sally Castle, E.I., Surface Water Engineer, EGLE (via Email)  
Joe Reinke, P.E., District Supervisor, EGLE (via Email)  
Kristin Bailey, District Engineer, EGLE (via Email)