## Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 28, 2017

Dr. Patrick Breysse Director National Center for Environmental Health/ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry 4770 Buford Hwy NE Atlanta, GA 30341

Dear Dr. Breysse,

We write to express our concern about the delayed release of the feasibility assessment for the Pease community regarding the contamination of the Haven Well to the Community Assistance Panel (CAP). We request that you complete the feasibility assessment as quickly as possible and provide an updated timeline for CAP to receive the assessment and to discuss its findings with your agency.

As you are aware, the Haven Well at Pease Tradeport was closed in 2014 after the discovery of contaminated drinking water that contained elevated levels of perflourochemicals (PFCs) from Air Force firefighting foam. The members of CAP have been working with ATSDR for more than a year to gather and review data regarding the contamination and health concerns within the community. We understand that a meeting to review the feasibility assessment scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to weather and the re-scheduled meeting for March 28<sup>th</sup> was cancelled because the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has not approved the study. We are concerned that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has not committed to a date to reschedule the meeting with CAP to review the assessment's findings but has already shared the assessment with the U.S. Air Force.

According to CAP, ATSDR has stated it could take another year to implement any of the studies that may be identified in the feasibility assessment. It is imperative that the assessment be released so the community can plan for additional studies to better understand what the Haven Well contamination means for those who have been exposed to the chemicals. It has been three years since the contamination was discovered, and there is concern that continued delays will prevent affected people from fully understanding the adverse impacts. For this reason, we request that you immediately release the feasibility study to the CAP in Portsmouth so that the community may move forward and evaluate the public health impact of the PFC contamination at the Haven Well.

We appreciate your cooperation and efforts to work closely with the Portsmouth community thus far and hope you will expeditiously release the feasibility assessment. Thank you for your work on this issue and we look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Shaheen

Jeanne Shaheen United States Senator Margaret Wood Hassan

Margaret Wood Hassar United States Senator

Annie Kuster

Member of Congress

Carl Sharbotte

Carol Shea-Porter Member of Congress

Cc: Acting Director Karyn Richman, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention The Honorable Lisa S. Disbrow, Acting Secretary of the Air Force John Bohenko, City Manager, City of Portsmouth, NH Community Assistance Panel Testing for Pease