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11/21/18  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **STURGIS TREATMENT PLANT PFAS TEST RESULTS RECEIVED**

STURGIS – On November 19<sup>th</sup>, the City of Sturgis received test results from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at the clean water discharge end of the City's wastewater treatment plant. These results reported that PFAS contaminants were below the water quality standard limit set for surface water discharge. Clean water from the City's wastewater treatment plant is discharged to the Fawn River as surface water.

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, water at the discharge end of the wastewater treatment plant was sampled by the MDEQ and tested for PFAS. The sampling is part of a MDEQ PFAS initiative to test municipal treatment plant discharges. Separately, the MDEQ sampled the City's drinking water system on October 5<sup>th</sup> as part of an initiative to test all community water supplies in the state for PFAS; those test results have not yet been received from the State.

PFAS are a group of industrial chemicals that have been used world-wide in common consumer products and manufacturing processes. Two PFAS of concern to the MDEQ are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). Results of the test showed that PFOA levels at the discharge end of the treatment plant was 3.1 parts per trillion (ppt); MDEQ's water quality standard limit for PFOA discharge to surface water is 12,000 ppt.

The PFOS levels at the discharge end of the treatment plant were 3.4 ppt; MDEQ's water quality standard limit for PFOS discharge to surface water is 12 ppt.

The City of Sturgis will receive further test results on the drinking water samples taken by the MDEQ and will continue to monitor water quality of both the municipal drinking water system and surface water discharges from the treatment plant. Future test results will be provided through the City's Facebook page ([facebook.com/sturgismi](https://facebook.com/sturgismi)) and website ([sturgismi.gov/pfas](https://sturgismi.gov/pfas)). More information on PFAS can be found on the State of Michigan's dedicated website, [michigan.gov/pfasresponse](https://michigan.gov/pfasresponse).

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