



## *The Township of Hamilton*

October 18, 2019

### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Judith Persichilli, Acting Commissioner  
Department of Health  
PO Box 360  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

**Subject: Trenton Water Works – Low Chlorine Levels**

Dear Commissioner Persichilli:

I have received your reply letter; and in response, by copying of this letter, I am **demanding that the State of New Jersey Government – regardless of the appropriate Department – immediately begin conducting official tests of the chlorine levels across Trenton Water Works’s entire service area, but in particular, across the area serviced by the Trenton Water Works’ Mercerville tower.**

On page 2 of your recent letter, you wrote “NJDOH (New Jersey Department of Health) **does not have the expertise to monitor water systems or to comment on how/when/why water systems should be evaluated or treated.**”

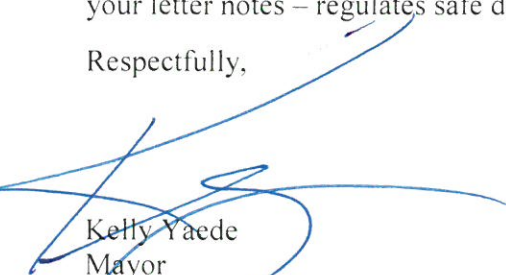
I am very concerned about this statement due to the fact that a 2010 article appearing on NJ.com and in the Times of Trenton stated the following: “**A report issued by the state Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) earlier this month now appears to pinpoint a potential cause: low chlorine levels in a Trenton Water Works tank located near Route 33 and Whitehorse Mercerville Road in Hamilton.**”

**These two statements appear to directly contradict each other; and that is very troubling to me.**

Further, while your response explains steps taken at the Gershen Apartments, what is being overlooked is the chlorine levels of water **before it enters** that complex or any other dwelling. Presumably, low chlorine in the water prior to entry into any building would only increase the potential for Legionnaires’ disease.

I am dismayed that an issue as serious as questions over drinking water quality has not been addressed with more urgency from the State of New Jersey, which through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – as your letter notes – regulates safe drinking water.

Respectfully,



Kelly Yaede  
Mayor

cc: Hon. Phil Murphy, Governor  
Catherine R. McCabe, Commissioner  
Steven J. Picco, Interim Director