

Testimony of Melissa Egbertson (Southeast Regional Hearing)

LOCAL COMMUNITY OF INTEREST - townships in Bucks and Montgomery County surrounding the former Willow Grove Naval Joint Reserve Air Base -Water purity and Development issues

Several townships in Bucks and Montgomery County have been affected by PFAS contamination of the water supply from the previous Horsham/Warminster Air Base activity. This is a very important issue and grouping those townships together can help make sure they get the focused support they need.

The Military Installation Remediation and Infrastructure Authority (MIRIA) has been created to coordinate water remediation projects for Horsham Township and surrounding communities.

Most but not all of the townships currently fall under those included in PA senatorial district 12. There are additional townships nearby that have emerging water issues as the contamination spreads through the aquifer, and they could be included also (Ambler and Upper Dublin).

The townships with affected water supply that I am aware of include Horsham (and Hatboro borough), Warrington and Warminster, and Upper Moreland, Ambler and Upper Dublin.

Townships with affected water supply have had to get water from the North Wales water authority, which currently supplies Hatfield and Montgomery townships (also in senatorial district 12).

In the next ten years, if the water issues can be resolved, re-development of the air base property will begin, and that development will affect all the surrounding communities named above. Having a state senator and representatives that can speak up for these communities as a group will be very important.