## PETER SHUMLIN



## State of Vermont OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 12, 2016

Tom Kinisky President and CEO Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics 31500 Solon Road Solon, OH 44139

RE: PFOA Drinking Water Contamination in Bennington County, Vermont

Dear Mr. Kinisky:

As you know, hundreds of drinking water wells in Bennington County are contaminated with perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) at levels above Vermont Department of Health Advisory levels. When ingested, PFOA can cause serious health effects, including liver toxicity, kidney damage, increased risk for cardiovascular disease, adverse effects on the reproductive system, immune system, infant and child development, and possibly testicular, prostrate, thyroid, and kidney cancers. Based on available information, the State of Vermont has determined that Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics (Saint-Gobain) is responsible for the cleanup of this contamination and other actions necessary to protect public health and the environment, and the State appreciates Saint-Gobain's cooperation as we responded to this emergency.

We write together today to underscore that providing municipal water and a comprehensive cleanup for impacted Vermonters expeditiously is a priority for the State of Vermont. The Bennington County residents have shown incredible patience and perseverance in the face of this crisis, and the State has already begun the process to provide a permanent drinking water solution. Our goal is to begin construction on municipal water line extensions in impacted areas during the 2017 construction season. In order to begin construction next season, the State will need to complete the final engineering design process no later than mid-January.

As both outgoing and incoming Governors, we are united in our resolve to get permanent clean water to our constituents in Bennington County, with costs being covered by those who have polluted the water. At this critical juncture, the State of Vermont expects that Saint-Gobain will honor its commitment to work together with the State to reach an agreement that will facilitate the start of construction of municipal water lines in Bennington County in 2017. We look forward to continuing to work with Saint-Gobain to clean up PFOA contamination in Bennington County.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin

Governor

Sincerely

Phil Scott Govern-Elect