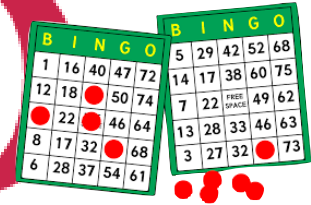


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Holding Polluters Accountable for Their Actions

BY HERALD STAFF

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The Plainview Water District (PWD) is pursuing litigation against manufacturers of 1,4-dioxane, as well as polluters responsible for its presence in the community's groundwater. The district says it is taking this significant step to protect Plainview-Old Bethpage residents from the man-made compound and ensure the health and safety of the community's water supply.

"The basis for the legal action being taken by the Plainview Water District is simple. The residents of Plainview-Old Bethpage are not responsible for the presence of 1,4-dioxane in our groundwater, and this lawsuit seeks to hold responsible parties accountable for their actions," said PWD Chairman Marc Laykind. "It is going to

take significant capital and commitment over time to treat for 1,4-dioxane. This is why we are prioritizing these actions to help ensure our community is made whole from the mess left behind by the polluters."

Prior to considering and planning for legal action, the district was working to be one of the first water district's to test treatment options for 1,4-dioxane. PWD has been leading a charge to pilot technology that can treat for this chemical—despite the fact that it is not currently regulated and has no determined Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL).

"We were not comfortable waiting for an MCL to be developed; we're taking the necessary actions to ensure the continued health of our water supply," said PWD Commissioner Amanda Field.



The Plainview Water District will be using an Advanced Oxidative Processes (AOP) system to track down and destroy 1,4-Dioxane molecules

(Photo courtesy of the Plainview Water District)

"Treatment for this specific chemical is costly and that has led us down several paths to find funding sources to help pay for future treatment systems."

In the fall of 2018, the district was awarded a \$369,000 grant, in conjunction with the Greenlawn Water District, from the Center for Clean Water Technology at Stony Brook University to pilot treatment systems to

remove 1,4-dioxane from the groundwater supply. Through this pilot program, the district will test a new technology called Advanced Oxidative Processes (AOP), which will be used to destroy 1,4-dioxane molecules.

"We are proud to be one of the first water districts on Long Island to be piloting this technology not only for our individual community, but for the region overall," said

PWD Commissioner Andrew Bader. "We are grateful for this opportunity to chart a new frontier in water technology that will play a major role in the future of treatment on Long Island."

In 2017, Governor Andrew Cuomo established the Drinking Water Quality Council—a panel of experts charged with recommending an MCL for emerging contaminants such as 1,4-dioxane. In December 2018, the council recommended to the New York State Health Department an MCL of 1 part per billion (ppb) for 1,4-dioxane.

Groundwater is the raw, untreated resource that exists naturally within Long Island's aquifer while drinking water is the finished, treated to all federal, state and local regulations product that is delivered to Plainview-Old Bethpage homes.