

January _____, 2021

ADDRESS: _____, Stoughton, WI 53589

RE: Private Lead/Galvanized Steel Service Line Replacement

Dear Property Owner:

Stoughton Utilities is engaged in a program to replace all lead or galvanized steel water service lines in the City of Stoughton, and will receive a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to cover the expense of replacing the privately-owned side of lead water service laterals. (Galvanized steel water service lines are replaced as part of the program where the public water service line was known to be lead.)

We have completed investigations of the private water service and believe that the private water service line to your property is made of either lead or galvanized steel and, if galvanized steel, is downstream of a public service line that is lead or was lead prior to the replacement of the public water service line in the past. Lead pipes and galvanized steel pipes that are downstream of lead services pose a threat to your health and qualifies as a public nuisance pursuant to Stoughton Code of Ordinances § 74-17(d) and Chapter 58. In 2021, Stoughton Utilities will be replacing the public side of your water service line, which is comprised of the pipe extending from the water main to the curb stop, also called the shut-off valve. The expense of the removal and replacement of your lead or galvanized steel water service line will be covered entirely by the DNR grant if you authorize Stoughton Utilities to arrange for the removal and replacement and provide Stoughton Utilities and its contractors with access to your property for that purpose.

However, because the portion of the water service line that extends from the curb stop to the water meter inside your property is private, you are entitled to arrange for the removal and replacement of the private side of the water service line with a contractor of your choice and entirely at your own expense. Pursuant to Stoughton Code of Ordinances § 58-6(c), this letter serves as notice to you that a public nuisance, in the form of a lead or galvanized steel water service line, exists on your property and you are required to remove the lead or galvanized steel service line and replace it with a copper service line.

The City of Stoughton also recently amended its ordinance relating to water meter locations. Pursuant to Stoughton Code of Ordinances § 74-15, if during the replacement of your lead or galvanized steel water service line it is discovered that the location of your water meter does not conform to Stoughton Code of Ordinances § 74-15(c) and (d) and poses a safety concern, then you may be required to move your water meter to a location that conforms with Stoughton Code of Ordinances § 74-15(c) and (d). If you have consented to Stoughton Utilities managing the removal and replacement of your lead or

galvanized steel water service line, then relocation of your water meter, if deemed necessary, will be included in the project and all expenses will be covered by the DNR grant.

Likewise, the City of Stoughton Code of Ordinances has recently been amended to prohibit indirect connections to the public water system, meaning connection to the public water system through the private water lateral serving another parcel. Pursuant to City of Stoughton Code of Ordinances § 74-2(g), if during the replacement of your lead or galvanized steel water service line it is discovered that your property is indirectly connected to the public water system through the private lateral that serves another parcel, then you may be required to relocate your water service line to directly connect to the public water system. If you have consented to Stoughton Utilities managing the removal and replacement of your lead or galvanized steel water service line, then relocation of your water service line to directly connect to the public water system, if deemed necessary, will be included in the project and all expenses will be covered by the DNR grant.

We would like to work with you to make this lead or galvanized steel water service line replacement process go as smoothly as possible. We require that you complete the removal and replacement of your lead or galvanized steel water service line or, sign and return the Authorization Form to authorize Stoughton Utilities to arrange for and oversee the removal and replacement of your lead or galvanized steel water service line within two weeks of the date of this letter.

Please contact me at (608) 877-7423 or jweiss@stoughtonutilities.com with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jill M. Weiss, P.E.
Stoughton Utilities Director