
PFAS pollution in Communities and support from all parties

From Mat Young <mat@Cleaner-Bentham.uk>

Date Tue 2024-11-19 9:28 AM

To mary.creagh.mp@parliament.uk <mary.creagh.mp@parliament.uk>

Dear Ms Creagh,

My name is Mat MacEley-Young and I have been given your name by Dr Anne Stec of UCLAN (who says hello). I live in a Town Called High Bentham in North Yorkshire, it is on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales and the Forest of Bowland and area of immense Natural Beauty.

We have discovered that our town has the highest level of PFAS (Forever Chemicals) in the UK, not only on the site of local firefighting foam manufacturer called Angus Fire but in the Environment and our town.

Angus Fire is owned by Angus International Safety Group and ultimately LDC Management (which is the equity firm for Lloyds Bank). Another Firm Angus International Safety Group owns (National Foam) in the United States is currently fighting 9000 lawsuits (at the current cost of £8 Million) for PFAS contamination.

High and Low Bentham has a higher than National Average cancer rate across all age groups, what makes this worse is the Town has only 3000 residents.

Angus Fire has discovered that not only their site is polluted but it has polluted outside of their site, including a Holiday Parks borehole. The River Wenning which is local to the town is polluted which we believe has run into the Lune, through Lancaster into Morecambe Bay.

Residents like myself have put together a nonprofit called Cleaner Bentham to find out the true extent of this damage to our environment and the health of people in the area of Angus Fire and possibly those farmers who have been receiving Bio Solids sold by United Utility from our local Sewerage farm which Angus Fire has been allowed to discharge effluent (possibly contaminated with PFAS from their "holding Lagoons") into for at least the last 20 years or more.

It has been proven with Angus Fires latest Environmental Report that there is PFAS contamination at the sewer storm drain down the Wenning.

We have recently started to put together Environmental (and Bloods) Testing with several Academics including Dr Stec.

The Academics involved are Dr Patrick Byrne (John Moors University Liverpool, Dr Lucia Rodriguez-Feires from Newcastle University.

I would be grateful if we could arrange a face-to-face meeting to discuss the implications of this, what our aims and objectives are and how they align with our other partners (Friends of the Earth and The Chem Trust), we would also be grateful to see if you will promote a cross-party committee to help communities like ours.

Many Thanks

Mat