

## Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor

**HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.**Commissioner

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February 27, 2019

Paul A. Pettit, MSL
Public Health Director Genesee and Orleans Counties
President, NYSACHO
One United Way
Pine West Plaza
Albany, New York 12205

Sarah Ravenhall, MHA, CHES Executive Director, NYSACHO

Dear Paul and Sarah:

Thank you for transmitting NYSACHO concerns regarding the NYS DOH Cooling Tower Compliance Plan in your January 7<sup>th</sup> letter. That letter described concerns about the need for actions to be evidence-based, resource issues to carry out the legislative cooling tower mandate, and related recommendations by NYSACHO. Our Center for Environmental Health (CEH) Bureau of Water Supplies Protection (BWSP) has evaluated the time and resource issues and has queried District Offices regarding level of effort required by the cooling tower compliance program. These responses are detailed in an addendum to this letter. A new highlight is that BWSP has started providing a county-by-county weekly report of non-compliant cooling towers so that counties and district offices do not have to make these determinations on their own. I have also attached the key resources mentioned in the addendum that help to rapidly bring non-compliant towers into compliance.

We are happy to discuss the enclosed materials at your earliest convenience and can schedule a call for the first week of March if that still works for you.

Best regards,

Gary Ginsberg PhD

Director, Center for Environmental Health

CC:

B Hutton, NYS DOH, OPH A Mazeau, NYS DOH, OPH M Andrews, NYS DOH, CEH R Sokol, NYS DOH, DEHP D Lang, NYS DOH, DEHP L Wilson, NYS DOH, BWSP C Rafferty-Jones, NYS DOH, CEH