



Kanawha County Commission

Media Release - For Immediate Release

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Kanawha County Commission Makes Progress on Paint Creek Chemical Spill with Further Testing Planned

Charleston, WV – The Kanawha County Commission is continuing to follow up on the Paint Creek Chemical Spill situation with plans for further testing of the creek, water sources and soil.

Kanawha County was informed that as part of an order sent by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to the trucking company, the trucking company must monitor the site during dry times and after rain events.

ALS is the independent lab hired by the Kanawha County Commission to process the testing samples. Officials from that organization told Kanawha County Commission staff that they would be ready to process testing samples in about three weeks. Kanawha County will be hiring an environmental consultant to be there for the testing to offer recommendations for other locations where samples should be taken.

The Kanawha-Charleston Health Department and Kanawha County Emergency Management Officials will participate in gathering the samples. Fayette County officials will also be participating. Fayette County officials have agreed to split the cost of the additional testing with Kanawha County.

According to DEP, on January 17, officials from Potesta, who were hired by the trucking company, went to Paint Creek and saw foam near boulders on the hillside and observed a chemical smell. Photos were taken and sent to DEP.

Kanawha County attorneys sent a FOIA request to DEP today to get access to those photos and the information.