MSK ENGINEERS

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TOWN OF RICHMOND

RICHMOND TOWN CENTER
203 Bridge Street, P.O. Box 285
Richmond, Vermont 05477

Date: 11/22/24

Re: Galvanized Requiring Replacement Service Line Pipe Materials at PROPERTY ADDRESS

Dear Property Owner or Resident:

Under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2021, every public community water system in the country was required to complete a service line inventory. The Richmond Water Department's service line inventory is available for review upon request.

To complete this inventory, the town of Richmond contracted with MSK Engineers to review records and observe water lines where they enter the building. Per requirements established by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation public drinking water program, each service line is divided into two segments. The water system side is the section of the service line from the distribution main to the curb stop and the customer side is the section of service line from the curb stop to the foundation of your building. Because the system side of a service line is entirely underground, that segment could not be readily observed and was categorized based on available records. The customer side is visible entering the foundation floor/wall and can be categorized via visual inspection. See the diagram at the end of this letter for a visual depiction of this configuration.

These new federal drinking water regulations require utilities to notify all customers whose service lines include a segment of unknown pipe materials. The customer side segment of your service line has been categorized as galvanized iron/steel. Available records to not clearly document that a lead pipe was never connected to this galvanized piping. Based on the requirements of USEPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's public drinking water program, your service line has been categorized as 'galvanized requiring replacement' (GRR) in the service line inventory prepared for the Richmond Water Department water system. A GRR service line is a section of service line that is made of galvanized steel and is currently downstream, previously downstream, or was possibly downstream of a lead service line. Because of minimal historical records showing previous service lines, clear documentation that a lead pipe was never connected to this galvanized line, doesn't exist. Your service line is included in the water systems lead service line replacement plan, which is available for review upon request.

GRR service lines may be a potential source of lead in drinking water. Per the US EPA, exposure to lead can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children who drink water containing lead could have decreases in IQ and attention span and increases in learning and behavior problems. Lead exposure among women who are pregnant increases prenatal risks. Lead exposure among women who later become pregnant has similar risks if lead stored in the mother's bones is released during pregnancy. Recent science suggests that adults who drink water containing lead have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems. Per the Vermont Department of Health webpage on lead in drinking water, "there is no safe level of lead. Take action to reduce lead levels as low as possible

Actions you can take to reduce lead concentrations in drinking water include flushing your tap before using water for drinking or cooking; and maintaining a water filter certified to remove lead from drinking water. To flush the tap, open the faucet until the water turns ice cold. This cold water is “fresh” water from the main that has not stagnated in interior plumbing. If you use a water filter, look for a filter that is certified to NSF Standard 53 to remove lead, like the Brita Longlast or PUR PLUS. Further information on immediate actions you can take to decrease lead concentrations in drinking water can be found at https://www.healthvermont.gov/drinking-water/lead.

Sincerely,

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