



# TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

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Supervisor

**Robert J. Greenstein**  
(914) 238-4774

May 23, 2018

Council Members

**Lisa S. Katz**  
Deputy Town Supervisor  
(914) 238-4774

Sunshine Children's Home and Rehab Center  
15 Spring Valley Road  
Ossining, NY 10562-2001

**Hala Makowska**  
(914) 238-4774

Dear Mr. Ari Freidman,

**Ivy A. Pool**  
(914) 238-4774

As local elected officials, we have a strong commitment and a deep sense of responsibility to ensure the health and welfare of our residents. It is for this reason that we are reaching out to you, as we have become increasingly concerned about the safety of the drinking water at Sunshine Children's Home.

**Jeremy M. Saland**  
(914) 238-4774

Via correspondence with the Westchester County Health Department (WCHD) (see attachment), we have learned that SCH has not yet submitted plans to WCHD for the installation of a water filtration system.

Town Administrator  
**Jill Simon Shapiro**  
(914) 238-4742

Our Board was concerned and disappointed to learn that forward progress has not yet been made on the filtration system.

In September 2016, our colleagues on the New Castle Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) issuing a Negative Declaration resolution that addressed the issue of radium as follows:

21. During the public hearing concerns were raised regarding Radium in Wells #3. The Town's consulting hydrogeologist confirmed that there was a Radium exceedance in Well #3 during the October to December 2015 sampling period. The Applicant addressed this water quality issue by temporarily suspending use of Well #3, which was taken out of service. In addition and per the requirements of the WCDOH, the Applicant will be addressing the Radium for water to be used within the buildings from Well #3 through a combination of blending the water from Well #3 with water from Wells #1 and #2 and a new water quality treatment system. The new water quality treatment system will include equipment to reduce the concentration of Radium to acceptable levels and must be approved by the WCDOH. Once installed, the water quality treatment system will be monitored by a NYS certified Class C water operator.

The ZBA's Negative Declaration expressly contemplated and found that SCH would avoid a potential adverse environmental impact arising from its reliance upon Well #3 by blending water supplies and implementing a water filtration system. In addition, we note that during a ZBA meeting in February 2018, SCH represented to the ZBA that you intended to install such a system. In light of the foregoing, we strongly encourage you to expedite your plans to install the water filtration system. .

As public servants, the Town Board is duty bound to protect the health and safety of all New Castle residents, and we are particularly concerned about the well-being of the vulnerable children who reside at SCH. We hope that you will work with WCHD to address these serious public health concerns as soon as possible.

Very Truly Yours,

Town Board, Town of New Castle  
Robert J. Greenstein, Town Supervisor  
Lisa S. Katz, Deputy Town Supervisor  
Jeremy Saland, Town Councilmember  
Hala Makowska, Councilmember  
Ivy A. Pool, Councilmember