



“My family *drinks* this water?”

Andrea Amico felt horrified, frightened, and guilty when she learned the drinking water at the Pease Tradeport, where her infant and toddler were in daycare, was highly contaminated with PFAS.

December 3

Dear <<salutation>>,

I’m writing you today with some good news and some bad news.

First, the bad news:

Scientists now believe that as many as 1 in every 3 Americans is drinking water that’s contaminated with hazardous PFAS chemicals.

Let that sink in for a minute.

It’s profoundly shocking, isn’t it? Especially since we know that *industry has understood for decades* how seriously dangerous these chemicals are to human health.

The good news?

<<salutation>>, your leadership donation of <<ask2>> today can help fix this problem and ensure that everyone has safe, toxic-free drinking water.

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Environmental experts call PFAS exposure **one of the biggest public health crises of our time**. PFAS has been linked with low infant birth weight, adverse effects on the immune system, hormone disruption (which can cause a slew of severe health conditions), and even cancer.

Yet companies continue to allow PFAS—a class of nearly 5,000 synthetic chemicals found in firefighting foams, food packaging, stain-resistant carpets, nonstick cookware, and many other products —into our drinking water supplies.

If you haven't been confronted with the news that your water is highly contaminated with toxic chemicals, you probably can't imagine how truly frightening it is. Let me tell you about Andrea Amico's experience.

Andrea was browsing the headlines of her local newspaper one day in May 2014, when she saw something that made her blood run cold.

Three wells supplying water to the Pease Tradeport in Portsmouth, New Hampshire—where her two small children were in daycare—were found to be highly contaminated with PFAS.

The contamination, caused by the use of firefighting foam at the nearby airport, was so severe that the largest drinking water well was shut down immediately.

Not a day has gone by since then when Andrea hasn't wondered and worried whether her children will become sick. And she'll worry about it for the rest of her life—because PFAS chemicals persist in the body for many years. She'll never know for sure if her kids will be okay.

As a leadership donor to Silent Spring, I'm sure you believe—as I do—that it is simply immoral to allow this to continue, if there's anything we can do to stop it.

And there is something we can do to stop it. But only with your help.

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Let me explain just a bit about where the science stands at this point in our study of PFAS.

Studies show that animals exposed to PFAS developed multiple cancers including liver, pancreatic and even testicular. PFAS has also been shown to disrupt mammary glands in animals, which could have implications for breast cancer.

But there have been few human health studies in communities that have been exposed to PFAS in drinking water. And although we've long been aware of potential health effects associated with PFAS in humans, **we don't yet have the overwhelming level of evidence needed to persuade our policy leaders to take bold steps to protect our drinking water.**

That's about to change. Silent Spring is leading two major studies on the health effects experienced by communities in New England where the drinking water has been contaminated by PFAS.

Unfortunately, these kinds of in-depth studies are very costly. It's expensive to do things like collect and analyze blood samples from more than a thousand individuals, report back to them on their PFAS levels, and prepare testimony to present to policy makers nationwide on our findings.

That's why **you are so important to this effort.** Your gift today will help us complete this study.

Your generous donation today of <<ask2>> will help make it possible—for the first time—for scientists to gather the kind of data we need to persuade policymakers to prevent companies from poisoning the water supplies in our state and our nation.

<<salutation>>, the only way to keep our communities safe is to close loopholes in toxics regulation, strengthen drinking water protections, and help people understand their risk for PFAS-associated health effects.

Andrea Amico, the mom I told you about earlier, has become an activist

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on this issue, advocating for regulation, policy change, and support for families like hers that have been exposed to PFAS.

She says she never wants another parent to go through what she's been through.

Will you help prevent families like Andrea's from being confronted with the terrible news that their kids have been exposed to toxic chemicals in their water?

Don't wait another minute to help stop companies from poisoning our drinking water!

Please send in your gift today. You'll be making our world safer for our children and grandchildren.



Gratefully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julia Brody". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Julia Brody, PhD

Executive Director, Senior Scientist

P.S. <<salutation>>, in this season of giving, what could be a better gift to those you love than the promise that every sip of water they drink is safe? Please protect our drinking water with a generous gift.

Fill out the enclosed form, write a check, and send them back to us right now! Thank you!