# **Restoration**



# **ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE**



September 2024 | Issue 30

## Keeping residents informed of cleanup activities

#### **NEXT NEWSLETTER**

The next newsletter will be released in December 2024.

#### **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

https://www.ellsworth.af.mil/ About-Us/Environmental/

View the following:

- Past newsletters
- PFAS Updates
- Presentations
- Public announcements





## CONTACT **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

28 BW/PA 1958 Scott Drive Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706 (605) 385-5056

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit the Administrative Record (AR) Website

#### https://ar.cce.af.mil/

- · From the "Installation List" on the left, scroll down and select "Ellsworth AFB, SD"
- If you know the AR number enter it next to "AR #" and click "Search"
- · Click on the eye icon to
- Numerous other search blocks can be used

# **New Waterline Construction Begins!**

On September 3, 2024, construction began on an Air Force-funded waterline to serve residents near Ellsworth AFB!

Residents should expect traffic delays at the intersection of Westgate and Country Rd for the next few months.

The start of construction marks the culmination of a five-year planning effort between the Air Force. South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority (SDEDA), Box Elder, Rapid City, and Pennington County.

In June 2024, the Air Force entered into an agreement to pay the South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority (SDEDA) to build a waterline to provide alternate drinking water to PFAS-impacted residents near Ellsworth AFB (see Figure 1 for location). SDEDA immediately awarded the construction contract to Mainline Contracting. Advanced Design, designers of the new waterline. will provide construction oversight support.

Once built, Rapid City will supply water and own the line west of Elk Vale Rd.

Box Elder will own and operate the line east of Elk Vale Rd.

While the main purpose of the waterline is to provide an alternate source of water to residents in Areas A and B with PFAS-impacted drinking water wells, there are additional benefits to the local community:

- New water connections between Box Elder, Rapid City, and Ellsworth AFB.
- Residents currently on the Southwest Waterline will receive water directly from the new waterline once complete.

Waterline construction and household connections are scheduled for completion in December 2025. The PFAS treatment systems will be removed after hookups are complete.

For questions on the construction plans please contact Mr. Howie Aubertin with SDEDA at (605) 430-4363.

For other questions, please contact the Ellsworth AFB Remedial Project Managers (contact information on the reverse).

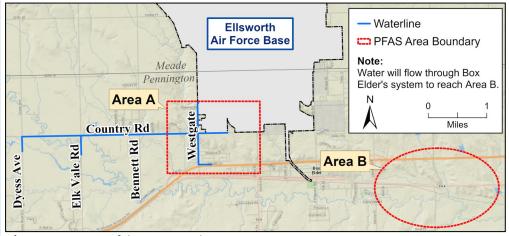


Figure 1. Location of the new waterline.

# Update: Ellsworth AFB Drinking Water and City of Box Elder Municipal Water NOT IMPACTED by PFAS

#### **Ellsworth AFB**

Ellsworth AFB receives drinking water from the Rapid City municipal system. Base officials tested the water in 2016 and 2021 and PFAS were not detected. Ellsworth AFB participated in EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) and collected samples in the Madison Aquifer. February, May, and August 2023, as well as January 2024. PFAS were not detected in any of the four samples.

If you live on Ellsworth AFB or are

connected to the Southwest Waterline and have questions about your drinking water, please contact Bioenvironmental Engineering at (605) 385-3172.

#### **Box Elder**

City of Box Elder drinking water comes from deep wells that are approximately 4,500 feet deep in

The City of Box Elder tested their active municipal wells in 2018 and PFAS were not detected in any of the samples. The City of Box Elder also participated in EPA's

UCMR 5 sampling program and collected four samples in 2023. PFAS were not detected in any samples.

If you pay a City of Box Elder water bill, you are connected to their system. For more information, please contact the City of Box Elder Public Works Department at (605) 923-1404.

Additional information on the Ellsworth AFB and Box Elder water systems can also be found in their most recent Consumer Confidence Report (see below).



A Consumer Confidence Report provides information about a community water system's drinking water. The EPA requires community water suppliers to send Consumer Confidence Reports annually to their customers. The reports include information on the source of water, the levels of any contaminants detected in the water, compliance with drinking water rules, and brief educational material.

The most recent Ellsworth AFB Consumer Confidence Report is posted on the Environmental Matters Website:

https://www.ellsworth.af.mil/About-Us/Environmental/

The most recent Box Elder Consumer Confidence Report can be found on the S. D. Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources website:

https://danr.sd.gov/OfficeOfWater/DrinkingWater

## REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGERS



L-R: Channing Shepherd, Rachel Puttmann, Andrew Fox, Rita Krebs, and Jens Christensen.



Ellsworth Air Force Base S. D. Department of Ms. Rita Krebs (605) 385-2688 Rita.Krebs.1@us.af.mil

Mr. Jens Christensen (605) 385-6625 Jens.Christensen@us.af.mil



**Agriculture and Natural** Resources

Mr. Andrew Fox (605) 773-6476 Andrew.Fox@state.sd.us



U.S. Environmental **Protection Agency** Region 8

Ms. Rachel Puttmann (720) 786-0023 Puttmann.Rachel@epa.gov

Mr. Channing Shepherd (720) 601-1837 Shepherd.Channing@epa.gov