



## Tucson and Marana join in water lawsuit

By Denelle Confair | December 23, 2018

We're following the latest on a water lawsuit filed by the city of Tucson and town of Marana to protect the public from potentially negative health effects from the groundwater supply.

The lawsuit alleges 3M, a company that manufactures firefighting foam used at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, contaminated parts of the water supply in Tucson and Marana.

3M, the company the city of Tucson and Marana is suing just settled a similar water lawsuit in Minnesota for \$850 million dollars. One Tucson council member we talked to is hoping for a similar settlement that would go towards efforts in providing clean water.

“That’s drilling new wells to make sure they’re replenishing the lost capacity. It’s building treatment plants to go and clean up the problem that we have now and it’s also paying for maintenance for those treatment plants going forward,” Steve Kozachik Ward 6 Councilman said.

In 2017, two wells near the Davis-Monthan Air Force base were closed down. Officials believe the contaminants came from firefighting foam manufactured by 3M which D.M. uses. The town of Marana also teaming up on the lawsuit had two areas in marana tested for those contaminants.

“We’ve filed a notice to intend to litigate. We’ve hired on contingency basis a law firm named Napoli Shkolnik out of the east coast,” Kozachik said.

Tucson and Marana are seeking to recover all costs for treating and removing the Per-Fluorinated Compounds or PFC's that can be found in firefighting foam and cleaning products.

Kozachik says he's hoping the lawsuit will be settled out of court.

“Instead of having to go to court 3M does what they did in Minnesota. They'll recognize that they had guilty knowledge of the contaminants. That they are putting into the water supply and instead of having to litigate that they'll settle out of court,” Kozachik said.

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