

Letter To Elmira Housing Authority Residents

From: Jim Mirando, Executive Director

Date: Monday, September 8, 2008

Subject: Water Restrictions Lifted at Flannery Towers

Today the Chemung County and NYS Health Departments lifted all water restrictions for the Edward Flannery Towers.

Testing has confirmed that the hot and cold water systems at the Edward Flannery Apartments are completely safe to use. The internationally recognized Legionnaires' Disease expert hired by the Elmira Housing Authority, Mr. Tim Keane of Legionella Risk Management, Inc, stated that "the hot and cold water systems at Edward Flannery Towers are well designed and pose less of a risk for Legionnaires' disease than almost every building he has audited".

This outbreak has been an ordeal for all of our residents and their families. One positive issue to come out of this is that Mr. Keane is insuring our building water systems at both Flannery and Bragg Towers are in compliance with all Legionella guidelines including those for healthcare facilities which do not apply to our buildings and the in-development ASHRAE Standard SPC 188 - "Prevention of Legionellosis Associated with Building Water Systems".

Mr. Keane stated, "Based on the measures we have implemented the risk for future Legionnaires' disease cases at Flannery Towers even from catastrophic events such as water main failures will be dramatically lower than at most hospitals and long term care facilities".

County Press releases can be found at:

www.chemungcounty.com/index.asp?pageID=10

Information on Legionella Guidelines can be found at:

www.legionellae.org