

News Release
1-10-14

**TOXICOLOGY, ANIMAL HEALTH EXPERTS SAY EXPOSURE TO WATER FROM ELK RIVER
CHEMICAL SPILL POSES NO THREAT TO LIVESTOCK**

State Veterinarian Dr. Jewell Plumley said Friday afternoon that after continuing to seek consultation and advice from toxicologists and animal experts from across the country that there are no known risks to livestock that may have been exposed to water that was tainted by a chemical leak in the Elk River on Thursday.

Plumley said that she was advised that the massive dilution and low toxicity of the chemical in question posed “absolutely no threat” to livestock and the fact that there has been no reported fish kill is an “excellent indicator” to confirm that assessment.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture will continue to provide updates on this event as new information is made available.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture protects plant, animal and human health through a variety of scientific, regulatory and consumer protection programs, as mandated by state law. The Commissioner of Agriculture is one of six statewide elected officials in West Virginia. For more information, visit www.wvagriculture.org.