

ECOS PFAS Coordinating Committee Call

July 24, 2019, 2 p.m. Eastern

State Partners - Ann Lowery (MA), Katie Angarone (NJ), Peter Walke (VT)

Federal Partners- Andy Gillespie, Cara Steiner-Riley, and Amanda Pruzinsky (EPA), Maureen Sullivan (DOD), Mina (filling in for Chris Reh) (CDC/ATSDR)

ECOS - Sarah Grace Longworth

State Updates

1. Massachusetts

- a. MA is amending its waste site cleanup regulations. The public comment period closed on proposed revisions to cover 6 compounds with a limit of 20 ppt. MA is working with their advisory panel on answering questions and other rulemaking as well.
- b. MA's Department of Public Health is addressing PFAS at a bottler site where PFAS was discovered through NH testing. MA DEP is working with DPH and NH on installing treatment.

2. New Jersey

- a. NJ hopes to finalize its MCLs for PFOA (14 ppt) and PFOS (13 ppt) by April 2020. This will include a groundwater quality standard as well. When finalized, they will require testing for all community public water systems and of private wells only upon the sale of homes or every 5 years for rentals.

3. Vermont

- a. VT [legislation](#) was signed in May. The state is preparing to test every water supply and are required to issue "do not drink" notices if the supplies exceed the interim standard. VT is working on their MCL, which is likely to be in place by early next year.

4. New Mexico

- a. NM filed in federal court this week a preliminary injunction against the Air Force to compel it to address PFAS contamination. In a [press release](#), NMED Secretary Jim Kenney and Attorney General Hector Balderas noted their frustrations with the Air Force regarding failure to act, and outlined the state's request for the Air Force to immediately begin delineating the groundwater plumes caused by decades of AFFF use at Cannon and Holloman Air Force bases through regular groundwater and surface water sampling. The filing also requests alternative water sources and treatment options to communities affected by contamination, voluntary blood tests for residents who may have been exposed, and additional documentation as to the extent of contamination around the bases.

Federal Updates

1. EPA

- a. EPA completed and posted for 30-day public comment comment its [method](#) (SW-46 Method 8327) for detecting 24 PFAS in non-drinking water matrices (groundwater, surface water, and wastewater). After the public comment period closes, EPA will revise the method accordingly and finalize it/incorporate it into the Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste: Physical/Chemical Methods compendium.
- b. OLEM started its efforts to declare PFAS hazardous substances and have received lots of comments. This is being reviewed internally now. They have also received lots of comments on its draft interim groundwater guidance and is sorting through those.
- c. OECA is working with ORD on the public version of its PFAS analytical tool. They are also working on data sharing processes and standards for other partners to get access to tools. This work is defined under the Agency's PFAS Action Plan.

2. DOD

- a. DOD has a new Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, confirmed this week. One of his first announcements was his intention to create a PFAS taskforce. He has given DOD 30 days to come up with a charter and 180 days to get back to him with a plan. According to his memo, the task force will aim to find and fund a substitute for AFFF, work with other agencies/public/Congress, and use science-supported standards for exposure and clean up.

3. CDC/ATSDR

- a. ATSDR has held several meetings recently on its PFAS exposure assessment work/multi-site study. They have a notice of funding opportunity out to establish cooperative agreements with up to six recipients, and plan to issue the awards in September.

Other

1. ECOS is working with its PFAS Caucus to finish collecting state responses to its standards questionnaire. ECOS hopes to have more information and some sort of whitepaper to share in the coming months.
2. ECOS members Catherine McCabe (NJ) and Bob Scott (NH) were among those who testified on the Hill today in front of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform. The hearing, titled *The Devil They Knew-- PFAS Contamination and the Need for Corporate Accountability*, examined PFAS prevalence, associated health risks, and industry efforts to clean up contamination.
3. ECOS held a PFAS Caucus call on July 16 to highlight PFAS fingerprinting and ongoing legislation.
4. ITRC is continuing work on its risk communication toolkit, as well as its technical regulatory document on PFAS which it hopes to release early next year. ITRC is also holding more training workshops, which have been well-attended and successful so far.

