

## ECOS PFAS Coordinating Committee Call

September 4, 2019, 2 p.m. Eastern

**State Partners** - Jason Brune (AK), Jeff Kitchens (AL), Ann Lowery (MA), Sandeep Burman (MN), Catherine McCabe (NJ), Peter Walke (VT)

**Federal Partners**- Rachel Rogers (CDC/ATSDR), Deb Morefield (filling in for Maureen Sullivan) (DOD), Cara Steiner-Riley and Helena Healy (EPA), Chris Weis (NIEHS)

**ECOS** - Sarah Grace Longworth

### State Updates

1. **Alaska**

- a. Nothing new to report.

2. **Alabama**

- a. ADEM has been working through issues related to 3M's release of PFAS from its manufacturing facility in Decatur. There was a possible TSCA violation of 2 PFAS compounds discharged to waters.
- b. In 2020, Alabama will test all of its drinking water systems not previously tested under UCMR 3.

3. **Massachusetts**

- a. MA closed its public comment period for its proposed cleanup standards (includes 5 compounds, additive approach, threshold of 20 ppt).
- b. MA also started to sample its public water systems. The state is implementing a targeted strategy by focusing first on systems that are within certain distances to known sources, and offering lab assistance. This is an ongoing effort.

4. **Minnesota**

- a. Minnesota's Pollution Control Agency and Department of Health continue to work with its sister agencies and the 10-12 East Metropolitan groups to spend the 3M settlement money to get rid of PFAS in their communities.
- b. MN is sampling a large number of private wells (1000 samples every quarter).
- c. MN is in the process of getting a new instrument and method for detecting PFAS at lower limits. They ordered a new instrument but certain parts created background levels so working on getting new parts.
- d. MN is finding more municipal drinking water systems impacted by PFAS so the state is conducting source investigations to see if the impact is localized or if there are bigger aquifer scale problems.

5. **New Jersey**

- a. New Jersey has an existing MCL for PFNA (13 ppt, adopted in September 2018) and two proposed MCLs for PFOA and PFOS (14 and 13 ppt, respectively). Regular quarterly monitoring requirements for PFNA went into effect for smaller public water systems in the first quarter of 2019. During testing, the water systems are also finding PFOA and

PFOS and most are reporting those results, as well as PFNA results, to the NJDEP. In the first two quarters, 10-11% of these water systems reported PFOA and PFOS in excess of the proposed MCLs. This is consistent with the frequency of occurrence found in New Jersey's larger public water systems during UCMR3 testing. Targeting testing conducted by NJDEP several years ago found a much higher occurrence rate in water systems near facilities known to have used PFAS. New Jersey's larger systems will begin regular quarterly monitoring for PFNA in January 2020, and likely will begin reporting of PFOA and PFOS findings as well by April 2020. NJDEP expects to finalize its PFOA and PFOS MCLs and regular monitoring requirements by the end of 2019.

## **6. Vermont**

- a. At the end of August, Vermont filed for a MCL for 5 PFAS compounds. It is being reviewed by its interagency review committee before going to legislature. The state passed a number of bills in the last legislature session including setting up interim standards and requiring all public water systems to test by December 2019.
- b. VT is also focusing on PFAS in wastewater treatment facilities, biosolids, land application, car washes, electric plating facilities, etc.

## **Federal Updates**

### **1. CDC/ATSDR**

- a. ATSDR has begun its exposure assessments in 4 of the 8 sites. The first site (Westfield, MA) is underway with officials in the field collecting blood and urine samples, conducting questionnaires, etc. They expect to be in the field for 2 weeks. In the second site (Berkeley County, WV), they initiated recruitment through an introductory community meeting, followed by phone recruitment). They will conduct door to door recruitment next week to reach as many participants as possible, and then start work. They also conducted a community meeting and phone recruitment in the third site (Newcastle County, DE) and hope to do door to door recruitment soon. The last site to kick off in 2019 is Spokane, WA- they will be there on September 19 for the introductory community meeting, with recruitment activity starting around the same time. The 4 other sites will start work in 2020.
- b. ATSDR is also in the process of launching a PEAS health study, which will serve as a pilot of sorts for methodology for its multi-site health study. The protocol was recently approved so the agency will plan a kickoff meeting in that community and begin work soon. Site selection for the multi-site study is ongoing and will be conducted through a cooperative agreement mechanism, with awards ongoing but announcements coming in the next few weeks.
- c. ATSDR received public comments on its PFAS toxicological profiles. The agency revised the profiles in response to comments, and the final draft is undergoing internal review. Final timeline for release is unknown.
- d. Rachel was asked about biomonitoring assessments and blood sampling in MI, and will give a presentation of this on the next call.

### **2. DOD**

- a. DOD's Secretary of Defense set up a PFAS task force, which has been meeting and is aimed at creating consistency across DOD components. A summary of their meetings will be posted on [defense.gov](https://www.defense.gov).
- b. The SERDP-ESTCP issued a supplemental call for additional [proposals](#) related to PFAS, including alternatives to AFFF. Proposals are due September 12 to be considered for FY20 funding. This process is coming to an end so they will begin doing R&D to look for those alternatives.

### **3. EPA**

- a. EPA is still moving forward with its proposed rulemaking to declare PFOA and PFOS hazardous substances. The schedule is slightly delayed but they expect this to be released soon.
- b. EPA has a lot of other work going on to implement efforts outlined in its action plan, including activities under Superfund, with representatives on the commission from the White House, adding data to its dashboard, looking to use enforcement authorities beyond CERCLA, and combining authorities like CWA and RCRA.

### **4. NIEHS**

- a. NIEHS is continuing to research health effects of PFAS through its REACT program (with the National Toxicology Program). Per usual, the agency published raw data on its website prior to summarizing and reviewing it internally so that it's available for public use. There are 2 data sets out now- a 28 day study and 2 year rodent study. The 2 year study will undergo peer review later this year, and NIEHS will post its interpretation of the data by the end of the calendar year.
- b. NIEHS is working on follow up from the SETAC meeting in Raleigh, NC last month. More information will be available soon.

### **Other**

- 1. ECOS is working with its PFAS Caucus on an outline for its whitepaper on state standards. ECOS hopes to have more information to share in the coming months.
- 2. ECOS will host a PFAS Caucus call on September 16 to highlight various efforts underway in the states, and will have a PFAS session at its fall meeting in Seattle, WA on September 24-26.
- 3. 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.