

## **ECOS PFAS Coordinating Committee Call**

December 11, 2019, 3 p.m. Eastern

**State Partners** - Lynn Kent (AK), Scott Ramsey (AL), Ann Lowry (MA), Sue Dempsey and Jessica Johnson (NE), Catherine McCabe, Kati Angarone, and Jessica Sponaugle (NJ)

**Federal Partners**- EPA OW, ORD, OECA, Rachel Rogers (CDC/ATSDR)

**ECOS** - Sarah Grace Longworth, Tadbir Singh (ITRC)

### **State Updates**

1. **Alaska**
  - a. Alaska's Department of Transportation, which manages airports that use AFFF, is under a class action lawsuit for contamination of drinking water wells near the airports.
2. **Alabama**
  - a. Nothing new to report.
3. **Massachusetts**
  - a. Massachusetts is working towards finalizing its cleanup standard, hopefully by the end of 2019, as well as a proposed MCL for drinking water, which is out for public comment. They will regulate 6 PFAS compounds at 20 ppt, summed. Post date is scheduled for December 27.
4. **Michigan (via Steve Sliver)**
  - a. Michigan's Class B AFFF collection and disposal program kicks off on December 12, 2019. The vendor, US Ecology, will be collecting 35,000 gallons of the foam concentrate from fire departments across the state and sending the containers to their Idaho site for solidification and landfill disposal. As part of this effort, samples of the concentrate from various manufacturers will be collected for analysis by the state and several researchers as well. This data could be helpful with contamination source identification in the future.
5. **Nebraska**
  - a. Nothing new to report.
6. **New Jersey**
  - a. In the coming months, New Jersey will finalize its drinking water and groundwater standards for PFOA and PFOS.
  - b. New Jersey is collecting lots of data from sampling for PFNA and since all drinking water systems will be required to monitor for that analyte, NJ DEP will also receive data on PFOA and PFOS.
  - c. At Princeton University, a professor and his team have found a microbe that can break apart PFAS compounds. This is very experimental but might show some promise for techniques and treatment.

## Federal Updates

### 1. CDC/ATSDR

- a. ATSDR has completed field work for its exposure assessments at the first 4 sites. ATSDR is in the planning stage for the assessments of the other 4 sites (located in TX, NY, AK, and CO) and will kick off intro meetings and field work in the new year.
- b. ATSDR's Pease Health Study in New Hampshire is undergoing its proof of concept study. ATSDR is working on recruitment and sample/data collection.

### 2. EPA

- a. Andy Gillespie of ORD noted that EPA participated last week in an introductory call of a small workgroup of staff from Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. The workgroup will focus on foam that is naturally occurring on several waterbodies throughout the states and has high levels of PFAS. The intro call was to share initial info and past work to sample foams.
- b. EPA will have several updates related to drinking water treatments in 2020, including a model to estimate costs of treatment, etc. and updates to EPA's treatability database. EPA will provide a briefing to this group when more is available.
- c. There were no new updates from EPA OW or OECA.

## Other

1. ECOS will host its next PFAS Caucus Call on January 22 at 2 p.m. Eastern.
2. ECOS is set to get state comments back on its standards whitepaper on December 20, and hopes to publish the paper early in the new year.
3. ECOS will host its annual State Environmental Protection (STEP) meeting on July 30. The theme is *Partnering on PFAS*. More information coming soon.
4. ITRC
  - a. The comment period for ITRC's risk communication toolkit ended, and they are addressing comments with PFAS team.
  - b. ITRC is working to complete its technical regulatory guidance document.
  - c. ITRC is hoping its training video modules will be up in March. They are being edited now.
  - d. ITRC will hold a PFAS training in MN on April 24, following its Annual Meeting.