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# **Addressing Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)**

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# Drinking Water on Our Installations

- **Completed UCMR3 testing and reporting December 2015**
  - 63 DoD drinking water systems required testing
  - Only one system detected levels above the EPA PHA – Wright Patterson AFB had one sample at 235ppt
- **As a concerned consumer, in June 2016 ASD(EI&E) directed the Military Departments to test for PFOS/PFOA where DoD supplies drinking water**
  - Completed sampling and testing of all 524 DoD drinking water systems for PFOS/PFOA
- **DoD has identified 24 drinking water systems, where DoD is the water supplier, which tested above the LHA**
  - DoD is following the EPA advisory recommended actions to include taking wells off line and providing alternative drinking water
  - These actions break the exposure pathway
- **Where DoD is not the drinking water supplier, installations are encouraged to ask if their drinking water suppliers have tested the drinking water and are the results below the EPA LHAs**
  - Identified 12 systems where DoD is not the supplier that tested above the LHA level



# Drinking Water off DoD Installations

- **The Components also sampled private drinking water wells if there was a suspected or known release that migrated off-base**
- **DoD is working with the Communities and private individuals to break the exposure pathway**
- **As part of the CERCLA process, DoD conducted off-base testing. As of August 2017:**
  - 2,445 off-base Public and Private drinking water systems tested
  - 564 public or private drinking water systems tested above the EPA LHA level
- **The information is available to the public at the following web link**
- **<https://www.denix.osd.mil/derp/home/documents/pfos-pfoa-briefing-to-the-hasc/>**



# Groundwater Sampling

- **DoD follows a comprehensive approach to identify installations where DoD stored and/or used AFFF and suspect a release is impacting drinking water**
  - As of August 2017, DoD identified 401 active and BRAC installations in the United States with at least one area where there is a known or suspected release of PFOS/PFOA
- **DoD is following the CERCLA process to address these suspected releases [reference: Defense Environmental Restoration Program, 10 U.S.C. Section 2701]**
  - First step is to identify the source(s) of a known or suspected release
  - Then identify if there is an exposure through drinking water
  - If there is exposure, DoD priority is to cut off drinking water exposure
  - Once exposure pathway is broken, the site is prioritized and will follow the CERCLA process to fully investigate the release and determine the appropriate cleanup actions based on risk
- **The DoD Components are conducting additional investigations, which include sampling groundwater**



# PFOS/PFOA Challenges

- **PFAS exposure assessment and health study – Coordinating with ATSDR on the design and how we will work together throughout the process**
- **Responding to state laws and standards**
- **Cleanup standard -- Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA) vs Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) risk assessment**
- **Risk Communication**
- **PFOS/PFOA versus Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) versus Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs)**
- **We encourage EPA to consider going through the process to determine if establishment of a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), under the Safe Drinking Water Act, is appropriate**
- **Disposal of contaminated groundwater and used granulated activated carbon (GAC)**
- **Developing an effective version of Aqueous Film Foaming Film (AFFF) with no known adverse effects**
- **Insufficient time to program for requirements**

**DoD remains committed to protecting human health and the environment**



# Conclusion

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- **DoD's priority is to address PFOS/PFOA to protect personnel living and working on our installations and the surrounding communities that we have impacted**
- **Military Departments have made great strides to ensure safe drinking water for our installations**
- **We are addressing DoD's cleanup responsibility**
- **Initiated removal AFFF with PFOS from the supply chain**



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# References



# Defense Environmental Restoration Program Authorities

- **Defense Environmental Restoration Program (10 U.S.C. Section 2701)**
  - Follow the CERCLA process and address hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants
- **DoD Follows the CERCLA Process**
  - Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection – Identify releases
    - Use EPA's Regional Screening Levels to determine whether to continue to a Remedial Investigation
  - Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study – Investigate and characterize the release and evaluate remedy alternatives
    - Perform Risk Assessment to determine if there is an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment
    - Evaluate ARARs – Once it is determined that remedial action is necessary, DoD will analyze state cleanup standards under the CERCLA ARARs process.
    - Develop Proposed Plan and Decision Document
  - Remedial Action/Remedial Operation
    - Implement and operate remedy
  - Long Term Management
    - Monitoring and Five Year Reviews
- **DoD prioritizes sites by risk level, but other factors may be considered**





# Groundwater Sampling

Component	Total Installations with known or suspected release of PFOS/PFOA (as of August 31, 2017)	Number of Installations Sampled where results exceeded EPA LHA (as of August 31, 2017)	Total number of groundwater wells sampled	Number of groundwater wells that tested above the EPA LHA
Army	64	9	258	104
Navy/USMC	127	40	1,368	784
Air Force	203	39	1,022	719
DLA	7	2	20	14
Total	401	90	2,668	1,621



# Applicable Policies

- **DoD Instruction 4715.06, “Environmental Compliance in the United States,” May 4, 2015**
- **DoD Instruction 4715.07, “Defense Environmental Restoration Program,” May 21, 2013**
- **DoD Instruction 4715.18, “Emerging Contaminants (ECs),” June 11, 2009**
- **DoD Manual 4715.20, “Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) Management,” March 9, 2012**
- **ASD(EI&E) Memorandum, “Testing DoD Drinking Water for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA),” June 10, 2016**
- **Emerging Contaminant Governance Council Meeting Results January 28, 2016**

These are consistent with CERCLA, NCP, DERP Statute (10 U.S.C. 2701), and SDWA



# Aqueous Film Forming Foam Replacement

- **ASD(EI&E) issued a policy in January 2016 requiring the Military Departments to:**
  - Issue Service-specific risk management procedures to prevent uncontrolled land-based Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) releases during maintenance, testing, and training activities
  - Remove and properly dispose of PFOS-based AFFF from the local supplies for non-shipboard use where practical
- **Each of the Military Departments is taking actions to remove the AFFF containing PFOS from the supply system**
  - AF funded removal of AFFF from all fire trucks and crash response vehicles in FY 2016
- **DLA is developing new stock numbers for PFOS-free foam**



# PFOS/PFOA Initiatives

- **Conducted fate, transport, effects, and remediation research and demonstrations**
- **Held PFAS workshop in May 2017 (<https://www.serdp-estcp.org/Featured-Initiatives/Per-and-Polyfluoroalkyl-Substances-PFASs/2017-Workshop-Report-on-Per-and-Polyfluoroalkyl-Substances>)**
- **SERDP released two Statements of Need for FY 2018, and is initiating supplemental FY 2018 Statements of Need**
- **Participating on the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) project to review and summarize the currently available Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) information**
  - ITRC technical team is comprised of members representing Federal and State regulators, Federal agencies, industry, and community stakeholders
  - The ITRC document will provide a unified summary of the state of the science to aid in the selection of appropriate responses to environmental releases of PFAS