

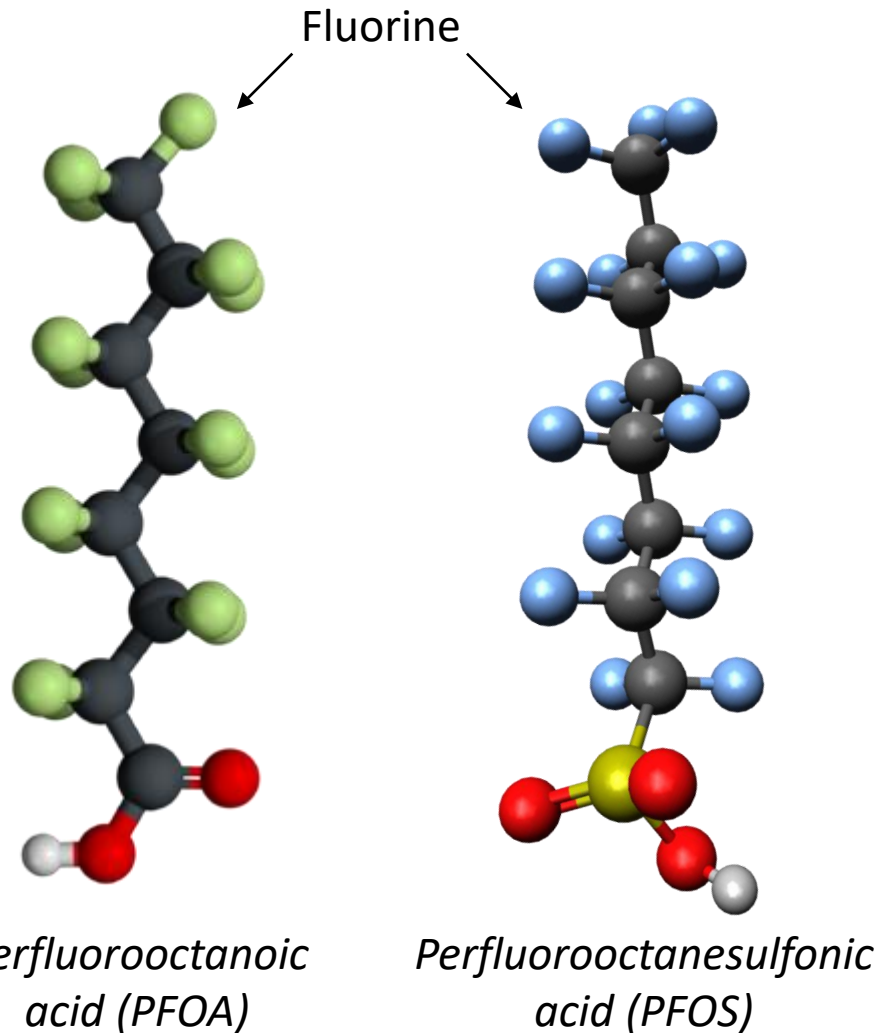
BOSC Executive Committee Meeting: Implementation of ORD's PFAS Research Portfolio

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The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)



A large class of synthetic chemicals

- Features chains of carbon atoms surrounded by fluorine atoms
- Wide variety of chemical structures, from single molecules to polymers

Used in homes, businesses and industry since the 1940s

- Have been detected in soil, water and air samples
- Most people have been exposed to PFAS

Some PFAS are known to be PBT

- P = Persistent in the environment
- B = Bioaccumulative in organisms
- T = Toxic at relatively low levels (ppt)

PFAS Research and Development

EPA is rapidly expanding the scientific foundation for understanding and addressing risk from PFAS

- EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) provides the best available environmental science and technology to inform and support human health and environmental decision making
- ORD is conducting scientific research to:
 - **Develop methods** and approaches for measuring PFAS
 - Better **understand risks** to human health and the environment from PFAS
 - Identify and evaluate **approaches for addressing PFAS** in the environment

ORD collaborates with other federal agencies, states, tribes, utilities and academic institutions on PFAS research and technical assistance activities

BOSC Executive Committee Meeting

- September 29-30, 2021
- Executive Committee plus select subcommittee members
 - ACE Subcommittee: Bart Croes, Michael Kleinman, Louis Rivers, Annette Rohr
- Purpose: Review ORD's implementation of its PFAS research and development portfolio
- Charge questions solicit:
 - General feedback on research implementation
 - Feedback on specific issues related to the three goals of ORD's PFAS research and development portfolio
- Materials available at <https://www.epa.gov/bosc/bosc-executive-committee-meeting-september-october-2021>

Charge Questions: Specific Issues

- Analytical methods: “Total PFAS”
 - Utility of “total PFAS” methods
 - Other analytical approaches for identifying “total PFAS” in environmental samples
- Science to support risk assessment: PFAS categories
 - Category characteristics that would maximize the utility of PFAS categories for the broadest set of decision contexts
- Approaches for addressing PFAS: Treatment field studies
 - Approaches for working with communities in potential field study locations

Next Steps

- Follow up working sessions
 - October 8 (last week)
 - October 20
- Report expected in November

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QUESTIONS?



EPA PFAS Activities – www.epa.gov/pfas

PFAS Research and Development – www.epa.gov/chemical-research/research-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas