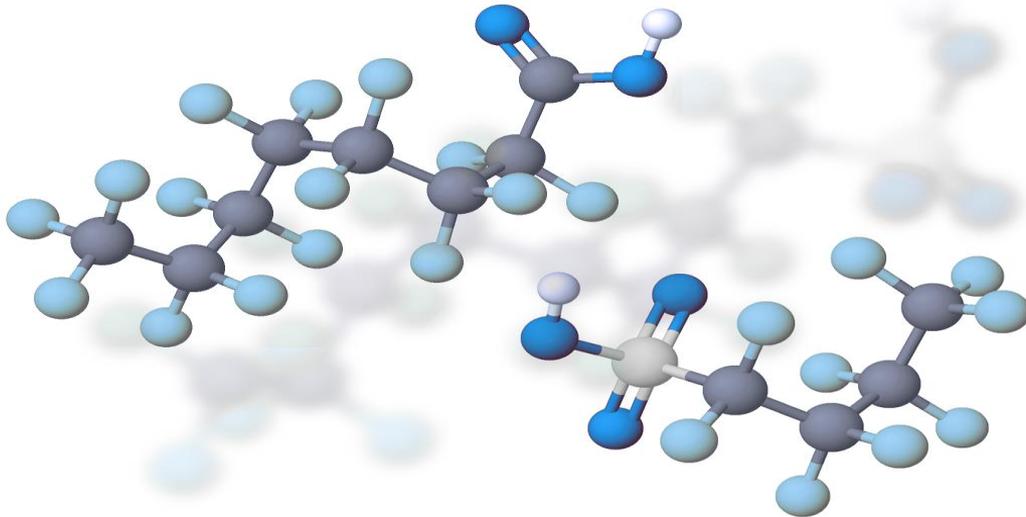


# PFAS Background and Action Plan

Pennsylvania PFAS Action Team Meeting  
April 15, 2019



# EPA's Previous Work on PFAS

- Working to advance research on other PFAS chemicals to better understand their health impacts, exposure pathways, options for treatment and removal
- Released draft toxicity assessments for GenX chemicals and PFBS
- Announced the initiation of assessments for five additional PFAS (PFBA, PFHxS, PFHxA, PFNA, PFDA) via the EPA's IRIS Program.
- Issued enforcement orders, provided oversight for federal agency cleanups and assisted state enforcement actions
- Provided technical assistance related to dozens of areas of PFAS contamination around the country.

# Action Plan Background

- EPA convened a two-day National Leadership Summit on PFAS in Washington, D.C.
- Following the Summit, the agency hosted a series of visits during the summer of 2018 in communities directly impacted by PFAS where EPA interacted with more than 1,000 people.
- The EPA's PFAS Action Plan was developed based on feedback from these events in addition to information received from approximately 120,000 comments submitted to the public docket.

# Action Plan Purpose

- Provides EPA's first multi-media, multi-program, national research, management and risk communication plan to address a challenge like PFAS.
- Responds to the extensive public input the agency has received over the past year during the PFAS National Leadership Summit, multiple community engagements, and through the public docket.
- As a result of this unprecedented outreach, the Action Plan provides the necessary tools to assist states, tribes, and communities in addressing PFAS.

# Highlighted Actions

## Drinking Water

- The EPA intends to establish a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for PFOA and PFOS—two of the most well-known and prevalent PFAS and is moving forward with the regulatory process.
- The Agency is also gathering and evaluating information to determine if regulation is appropriate for other chemicals in the PFAS family.
- The EPA is committed to following the Safe Drinking Water Act process for evaluating and establishing drinking water standards for PFAS chemicals.

# Highlighted Actions

## Cleanup

- The EPA will facilitate cleanup efforts by providing groundwater cleanup recommendations.
- The EPA is initiating the regulatory development process for listing certain PFAS as hazardous substances.

# Highlighted Actions

## Monitoring

- The EPA will propose nationwide drinking water monitoring for PFAS under the next UCMR monitoring cycle.

## Research

- The EPA is rapidly expanding the scientific foundation for understanding and managing risk from PFAS.
- This research is organized around understanding toxicity, understanding exposure, assessing risk, and identifying effective treatment and remediation actions.

# Highlighted Actions

## Toxics

- The EPA is considering the addition of PFAS chemicals to the Toxics Release Inventory
- EPA is issuing a supplemental proposal to guard against the unreviewed reintroduction and new use, through domestic production or import, of certain PFAS chemicals in the United States.

# Highlighted Actions

## Enforcement

- The EPA uses enforcement tools, when appropriate, to address PFAS exposure in the environment and assist states in enforcement activities.

## Risk Communications

- The EPA will work collaboratively to develop a risk communication toolbox that includes multi-media materials and messaging for federal, state, tribal, and local partners to use with the public.

# Action Plan Next Steps

- To implement the plan, the EPA will continue to work in close coordination with multiple entities, including other federal agencies, states, tribes, local governments, water utilities, industry, and the public.
- The EPA will provide updates on actions outlined in the plan on the Agency's website.

# Questions?