

Here are the facts about the Occurrence and HWSA management of short-chain PFAS compounds:

- The filtration systems installed by the Authority **do** remove short-chain PFAS compounds.
- As with any treatment system, such as those on a refrigerator water dispenser, filters must be changed regularly in order to perform effectively.
- Each of the treatment systems installed by the Authority includes two rigorously maintained filters, one followed by the other.
- In order to monitor the performance of the filters, samples are collected every 2 weeks at each step in the treatment process.
- Since the Authority began monitoring for PFAS in 2014, it has accumulated over 10,000 data points, including for numerous short-chain PFAS compounds.
- Historical testing has demonstrated that only 7 PFAS contaminants may be detected in our untreated supplies (4 long chained PFAS (PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS and PFNA), and 3 short chained PFAS* (PFBS, PFHxA and PFHpA))
- The long-chained PFAS generally represent 70-90% of the total PFAS in our untreated supplies, while the short-chained PFAS generally represent 10-30%.
- It has been our experience that when present, certain short chain compounds, particularly PFHxA, may eventually pass through the first of the two filters in series sooner than PFOS and PFOA.
- However, breakthrough of *any* of the monitored PFAS compounds after the first filter prompts replacement of this filter. In the meantime, the second filter continues to remove the trace contaminants left behind by the first filter.
- This ongoing cycle of testing and filter replacement allows the Authority to ensure the removal of PFOS/PFOA as well as the short chain compounds before they reach your faucet.
- Currently, data for pre and post treated water for the four compounds that were examined as part of the PA Department of Health 2018 blood sampling program (PFOS, PFOA, PFNA, and PFHxS) are posted to our website.
- The Authority welcomes all interested parties to its office to review all of its data supporting the effectiveness of the treatment process, including for the removal of short-chain PFAS.

*Note: There are no health advisories in place for any short-chained PFAS compounds. To date, EPA has issued draft toxicity assessments for only 2 short-chained PFAS compounds, PFBS and GenX. The lifetime reference dose (chronic RfD) for both PFBS and GenX in these draft assessments suggests a lower toxicity than PFOA and PFOS.