

The State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

EMAIL ONLY

August 20, 2020

Stephen TerMaath, Ph.D., P.E. Chief, BRAC Program Management Division Installations Directorate - AFCEC 2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 155 JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853 stephen.termaath@us.af.mil

RE: PFAS AGQS Notification and Request for Compliance

Former Pease Air Force Base

Portsmouth, New Hampshire - DES Site #198404025, Project #34346

Dear Dr. TerMaath:

I am writing on behalf of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to provide formal notification to the United States Air Force that health-based Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) and Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards (AGQS) for four per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were signed into law on July 23, 2020 and are as follows: 12 nanograms per liter (ng/L, equivalent to parts per trillion) for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), 15 ng/L for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), 18 ng/L for perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and 11 ng/L for perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) as summarized in the table below.

| | PFOA (ng/L) | PFOS (ng/L) | PFHxS (ng/L) | PFNA (ng/L) |
|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| MCL/AGQS | 12 | 15 | 18 | 11 |

NHDES requests the Air Force to respond within 14 days with its intention to comply with these AGQS as part of its on-going PFAS response actions at and around the Former Pease Air Force Base (Pease) in Portsmouth, Newington and Greenland, New Hampshire.

This compliance shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Immediate establishment of bottled water delivery to properties participating in the on-going private water supply well inventory and monitoring program where samples have been collected and document concentrations that exceed any of the above-referenced AGQS. (Based upon current data, this includes 5 homes.)
- 2. Permanent mitigation for those impacted private water supplies (e.g., connection to the municipal supply system, or installation of an appropriate point-of-entry treatment system).
- 3. Establishment of Groundwater Management Zone(s) and associated land use controls as part of the pending PFAS Remedial Investigation.
- 4. Adherence to the AGQS for treated water reinjection associated with the operation of the Air Force's PFAS groundwater remedial systems.

Dr. Stephen TerMaath August 20, 2020 Page 2 of 2

NHDES appreciates the work done to date by the Air Force to address human health exposures. We look forward to your response and continued collaboration with NHDES and USEPA on PFAS response actions at Pease, including development and execution of the recently awarded Remedial Investigation.

Please contact Peter Sandin, Supervisor, Department of Defense Sites Section at (603) 559-0022, peter.sandin@des.nh.gov, or me if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Wimsatt, P.G., Director Waste Management Division

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