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Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 3:41 PM
Subject: Status Update - July 13, 2022: Navy Ongoing Actions Regarding the PFAS Drinking Water Investigation Near NSA Cutler Fire Station

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Good Afternoon,

We are providing you with a status update regarding the Navy's investigations of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which includes perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), at and near the NSA Cutler Fire Station.

NSA Cutler Drinking Water Investigation Results Summary. The sampling results to date are summarized and posted on the NSA Cutler Environmental Restoration website (<https://www.navfac.navy.mil/Business-Lines/Environmental/Products-and-Services/Environmental-Restoration/Mid-Atlantic/Cutler-NCTAMS/PFAS-Sampling/>). Please note the website address has been updated since the May 2022 Status Update email. One additional sampling request has been made and sample collection is planned for Summer 2022.

New EPA Lifetime Drinking Water Health Advisories. On June 15, 2022, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released interim updated lifetime drinking water health advisories for PFOA and PFOS. They also established final lifetime drinking water health advisories for hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HPFO-DA) and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS).

The Department of the Navy is currently evaluating how we will address EPA's new interim lifetime health advisories. We will coordinate with Office of the Secretary of Defense and the rest of the Department of Defense to develop a consistent approach, to include proactive engagement with communities and the appropriate Congressional delegations.

CERCLA Investigation. The Navy has initiated a PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI), under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), for areas on and near the NSA Cutler Fire Station (Installation Restoration [IR] Site 10). Fieldwork began in January 2022 with a geophysical survey performed on and near the NSA Cutler Fire Station to better understand both the subsurface geology and the flow of groundwater in this area. Additional fieldwork was scheduled to begin in July 2022; however, in consultation with property owners near NSA Cutler Fire Station, it was decided to delay fieldwork until Fall 2022 to allow for additional planning and coordination with property owners within the RI Study Area. Additional information on the PFAS RI fieldwork activities and what the community can expect will be outlined in a "Community Information" notice, which will be emailed with the August 2022 Status Update. If you have questions or concerns regarding this PFAS investigation, please reach out to Paul Young (Navy Project Manager) at paul.r.young71.civ@us.navy.mil.

Navy Actions. The Navy continues to collect performance monitoring samples of Navy-installed point of entry treatment (POET) systems that were installed at properties near the NSA Cutler Fire Station where PFOA and/or PFOS concentrations in the drinking water samples were detected above the 2016 EPA lifetime drinking water health advisory of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). The Navy installed 14 POET systems in April 2021 based on results of the initial Fall 2020 drinking water well investigation. In addition, the Navy has been resampling some drinking water wells in 2021 and 2022 where PFOA and/or PFOS were detected below the 2016 EPA lifetime drinking water health advisory in the initial investigation. Five additional drinking water wells were identified with PFOA and/or PFOS concentrations above 70 ppt during resampling of wells, and the status of POET systems installation for these wells is discussed in a later section of this update: "Additional POET System Installation." Validated results continue to be provided to each property owner via email or mail. The following provides results of these sampling efforts:

• **POET System Performance Monitoring.** Based on the first year of POET performance monitoring data for the 14 POET systems, the Navy will be conducting quarterly sampling of the systems during the second year of operation; the first quarter POET performance sampling was completed in June 2022 (results pending).

• **Quarterly Resampling of Drinking Water Wells.** In 2021, the Navy conducted four quarterly resampling events (May, July, October, and December) of off-base drinking water wells near the NSA Cutler Fire Station where PFOA and/or PFOS were initially detected above 40 ppt, but below 70 ppt (the 2016 EPA lifetime drinking water health advisory). All of the drinking water wells included in the 2021 quarterly resampling program now have POET systems installed by either the Navy or Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) or the POET system installation is in process. Therefore, no additional quarterly resampling by the Navy is planned at this time. The MEDEP is conducting performance monitoring for the MEDEP-installed POET systems.

• **Annual Resampling of Drinking Water Wells.** The Navy is also conducting annual resampling of off-base drinking water wells near NSA Cutler Fire Station where PFOA and/or PFOS were detected below 40 ppt based on results of the initial Fall 2020 drinking water well investigation and June 2021 annual resampling results.

► **June 2022 – Completed (results pending).** Only wells near NSA Cutler Fire Station where PFOA and/or PFOS were detected below 40 ppt and do not have a POET system installed by either the Navy or MEDEP were sampled during the June 2022 annual resampling event. Validated results will be provided to each private well owner via email or mail.

• **Additional POET System Installation.** In January 2022, the Navy installed POET systems on four of the five wells where PFOA and/or PFOS results were above 70 ppt during the 2021 resampling. The POET system installation at the one remaining well location is currently in process. The Navy has initiated the performance monitoring for the four POET systems installed in January 2022 to confirm that the POET systems are reliably providing treated water below the 2016 EPA lifetime drinking water health advisory for PFOA and PFOS. As in the past, bottled water will continue to be provided by the Navy for drinking and cooking until it is confirmed by both the Navy and MEDEP that the POET systems are operating properly.

State of Maine PFAS Actions. In January 2022, the MEDEP installed 14 POET systems at drinking water well locations near NSA Cutler Fire Station with concentrations of six PFAS compounds above the State of Maine interim drinking water standard. The State of Maine interim drinking water standard is 20 ppt for the sum of six PFAS compounds that include PFOA and PFOS along with four additional PFAS compounds (i.e., perfluorohexanesulfonic acid [PFHxS], perfluorononanoic acid [PFNA], perfluoroheptanoic acid [PFHpA], and perfluorodecanoic acid [PFDA]). Please contact Chris Swain of the MEDEP (Chris.Swain@maine.gov or 207-485-3852) for additional information or questions regarding the state's drinking water standards or the MEDEP-installed POET systems.

Closing. If you have any questions regarding the NSA Cutler PFAS Drinking Water Investigation, please send an email to NAVFAC_ML_PAO@navy.mil or call the NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs Office at 1-757-341-1410/1411. The Navy continues to work with property owners, community leaders, and other federal, state, and local agencies, and will keep the community informed while respecting the privacy of individual residents.

NOTE: If you no longer want to receive these status updates, please send an email to: NAVFAC_ML_PAO@navy.mil, and we will update our list.

Thank you.

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