Date: March 13, 2024

Subject: Status Update: Navy PFAS Investigations at and near Naval Support Activity (NSA) Cutler Fire Station

We are providing you with a status update regarding the Navy's investigations of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which includes perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), perfluorononanoic (PFNA), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA), and perfluorodecanoic Acid (PFDA) at and near the NSA Cutler Fire Station.

PFAS Remedial Investigation for Site 10 NSA Cutler Fire Station:
The PFAS environmental fieldwork for the Remedial Investigation at Installation Restoration (IR) Site 10 (NSA Cutler Fire Station) was completed on December 22, 2022. The Navy evaluated the validated lab results and prepared a Draft report for Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) review on January 17, 2024. The report documents the field activities, results of the investigation, an analysis of the data, conclusions, and recommendations for a path forward. Once the report is final, it will be made available for the public; the report is expected to be finalized in spring of 2024. If you have questions or concerns regarding this PFAS investigation, please reach out to Mr. Paul Young (Navy Project Manager) at paul.r.young71.civ@us.navy.mil.

EPA Proposed Draft PFAS Drinking Water Standard:
On March 14, 2023, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a draft regulatory drinking water standard for certain PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS. In response, Department of Defense (DoD) has issued the following statement: "DoD respects and values the public comment process on this proposed nationwide drinking water rule and looks forward to the clarity that a final regulatory drinking water standard for PFAS will provide. In anticipation of the final standard that EPA expects to publish in 2024, the DoD is assessing what actions DoD can take to be prepared to incorporate EPA's final regulatory standard into our current cleanup process, such as reviewing our existing data and conducting additional sampling where necessary. In addition, DoD will incorporate nationwide PFAS cleanup guidance, issued by EPA and applicable to all owners and operators under the federal cleanup law, as to when to provide alternate water when PFAS are present."

Off-Base Drinking Water Sampling near NSA Cutler Fire Station:
The off-base drinking water 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/). The final drinking water sampling results are also available online at: https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/eer/ecc/pfas/map/pfasmap.html. Individual drinking water sample results cannot be linked with the sampled properties on this website.

The Navy continues to collect point of entry treatment (POET) performance monitoring samples at the 19 Navy-installed filter systems near the NSA Cutler Fire Station. The Navy provides these validated results to each property owner via email or mail. The following provides a summary of the current sampling efforts:

POET System Performance Monitoring – The Navy is conducting quarterly sampling of the 14 POET systems installed in April 2021 and now in their second year of operation. The POET performance sampling results to date, have indicated the POET systems are working properly. This year's 4th Quarter sampling event was completed on December 18, 2023 (results are currently being validated). During the December 2023 performance sampling event, an inspection of the POET systems was completed. Maintenance items were identified, and repairs are planned for the middle of March to include installation of a metals filter, checking sample ports, and/or pressure gauges, as needed, and installing insulated covers for system tanks to reduce condensation. The next sampling event is scheduled for March 2024.

POET performance monitoring for the five additional POET systems installed between January and July 2022 (now in their second year of operation) is ongoing). POET performance monitoring and sampling for these five POET systems has indicated that to date, the POET systems are providing treated water with PFOA and PFOS below 70 parts per trillion (ppt). The most recent POET performance monitoring (five POET systems) was completed in September 2023 (results being validated). In December 2023, the five additional POET systems were again sampled on a quarterly basis, and the sampling schedule will be consistent with the POET performance monitoring conducted for the 14 POET systems installed in April 2021.

An additional inspection by a plumber will take place during the middle of March 2024 to ensure systems are working properly with repairs as needed based on items from the September and December 2023 inspections. Following data validation of the December 2023 POET performance monitoring results, the Navy and MEDEP will evaluate the data to confirm the POET system are operating properly.

Navy Contractor :
As of April 2023, the Navy's contractor for the POET sampling and ongoing operations and maintenance. is Resolution Consultants. If you have questions, please reach out to Mr. Paul Young (Navy Project Manager) at paul.r.young71.civ@us.navy.mil.

Closing:
If you have questions about the NSA Cutler PFAS Drinking Water Sampling, you can respond to this email or you can call the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs Office at 1-757-341-1410 or 1-757-341-1411. The Navy continues to work with the property owners, community leaders, and other federal, state, and local agencies, and will keep the community informed while respecting the residents' privacy.

Thank you,
NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs

NOTE: If you no longer want to receive status updates on the Navy's ongoing actions regarding PFAS at and near NSA Cutler Fire Station, please send an email to: NAVFAC_ML_PAO@navy.mil.

Navy PFAS website:
https://www.secnav.navy.mil/eie/Pages/PFAS_Home.aspx

DoD PFAS website:
https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/eer/ecc/pfas/