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**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2021 3:13 PM  
**Subject:** Status Update - July 29, 2021: Navy Ongoing Actions Regarding the PFAS Drinking Water Investigation Near NSA Cutler Fire Station

Good afternoon,

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

**NSA Cutler Drinking Water Investigation Results Summary.** Since the June 2021 status update, no additional private drinking water wells within the designated sampling area have been sampled. The sampling results summary on the NSA Cutler Environmental Restoration website at <https://go.usa.gov/xwfdW> has been updated.

**Current Navy Actions.** The Navy continues to collect point of entry treatment (POET) system performance monitoring samples at properties near the NSA Cutler Fire Station where PFOA and PFOS concentrations in the drinking water samples were detected above the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lifetime health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). In addition, the Navy has been resampling drinking water wells which had detections of PFOS and PFOA below the lifetime health advisory level. The following are results of both sampling efforts:

- **POET Performance Monitoring.** To date, the Navy has completed seven performance sampling events between April and July 2021. The results of the first five performance sampling events have been validated and provided to each well owner. Preliminary results for sampling event #6 have been provided verbally to each well owner by the Navy Project Manager and are in the process of validation. Preliminary results from the laboratory for sampling event #7 are expected by mid-August. The next performance sampling event is scheduled for mid-August 2021.

The Navy has evaluated the performance sampling results collected to date and discussed the results with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP). *The Navy and MEDEP agree that the results indicate the POET systems are reliably providing treated water below the EPA lifetime health advisory level for PFOA and PFOS.* Therefore, the Navy has verbally notified residents with a POET system that they may begin using the treated water for drinking and cooking and the Navy will discontinue bottled water delivery to those residents. In addition, the Navy will be sending each resident with a POET system written notification that the treated water may now be used for drinking and cooking; the written notification will also include the MEDEP's concurrence letter.

- **Resampling of Drinking Water Wells.** As noted in the previous update, the Navy is conducting quarterly resampling of off-base drinking water wells near the NSA Cutler Fire Station that initially had detected PFOA and PFOS above 40 ppt, but at concentrations less than the EPA lifetime health advisory (70 ppt). The first round of four quarterly resampling events was conducted in May, and the validated results have been provided to each well owner. Based on the results, one additional well was identified that has a total PFOA/PFOS concentration above the EPA lifetime health advisory. The property owner was notified within 24 hours of Navy receiving the preliminary results, and bottled water has been provided. The Navy is working with the contractor to schedule installation of a POET system at this location in fall 2021. The second quarterly resampling event of these wells was completed in mid-July, and the Navy expects to receive the preliminary results from the laboratory in August. The third quarterly resampling event is scheduled for October 2021.

In early June, the Navy also resampled off-base drinking water wells near the NSA Cutler Fire Station that initially had detected PFOA and PFOS at concentrations below 40 ppt. The validated results have been provided to each well owner. Based on the results, none of these resampled locations have total PFOA/PFOS concentrations above the EPA lifetime health advisory. However, three locations have total PFOA/PFOS concentrations greater than 40 ppt; therefore, those locations will now be included in the quarterly resampling program. The next annual resampling event, for off-base

drinking water wells near the NSA Cutler Fire Station that had detected PFOA and PFOS at concentrations below 40 ppt, is scheduled for spring 2022.

**Closing.** Testing is still available for property owners within the designated sampling area that have not already had their wells sampled. Information on how to schedule a sampling appointment is available, along with other project summary information, on the Navy's PFAS website at <https://go.usa.gov/xwfdW>.

If you have questions about the NSA Cutler PFAS Drinking Water Investigation, please send an email to [NAVFAC\\_ML\\_PAO@navy.mil](mailto:NAVFAC_ML_PAO@navy.mil) or call the Navy Public Affairs Office at 1-800-915-4705. 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 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](mailto:NAVFAC_ML_PAO@navy.mil), and we will update our list.

Thank you.

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