PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) UPDATE

US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE)

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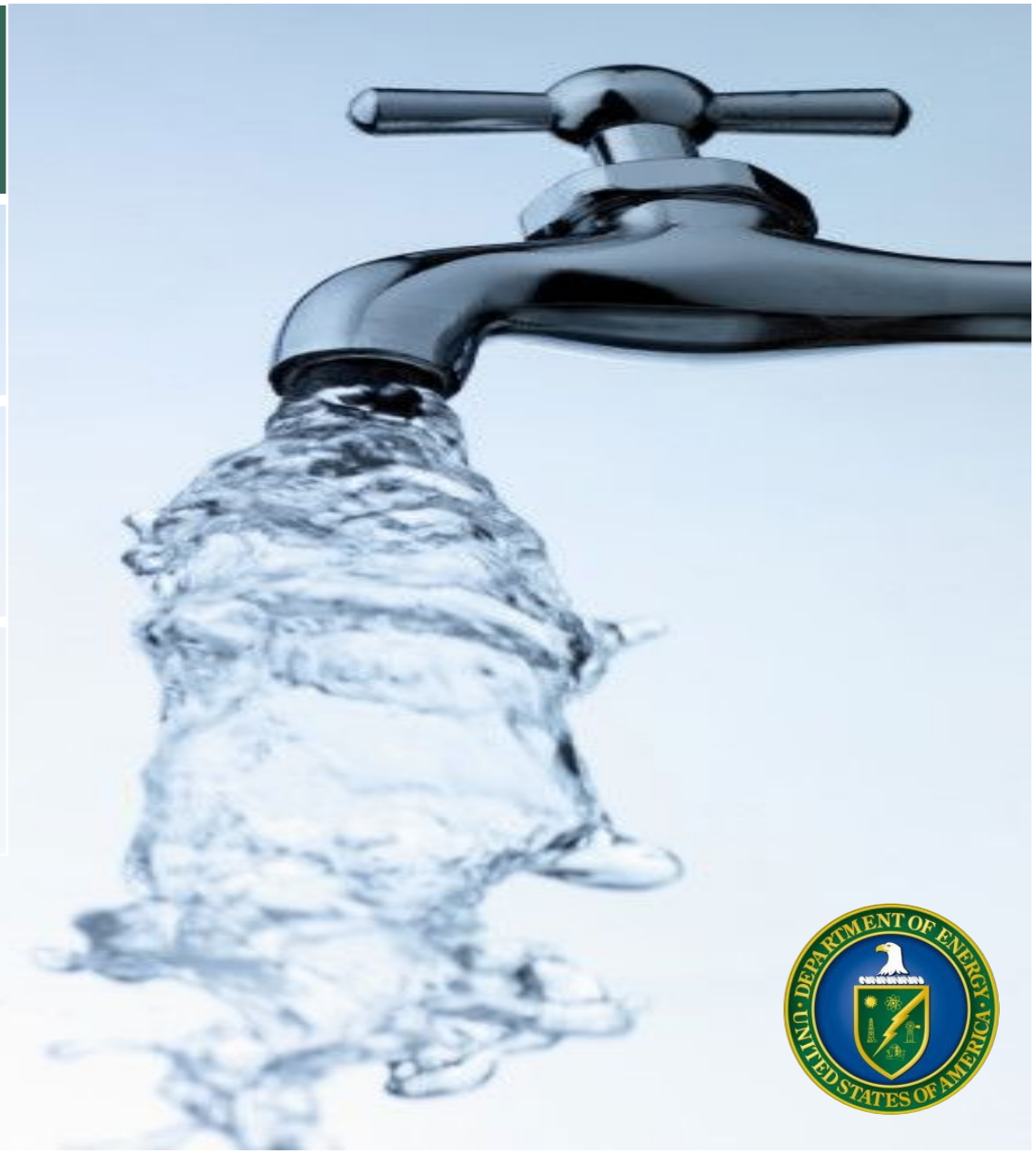
May 12, 2022

Agenda

Deputy Secretary PFAS Memo

DOE PFAS Roadmap

PFAS Preliminary Assessment



Deputy Secretary PFAS Memo (September 16, 2021)

The Deputy's memorandum establishes the Department's framework for addressing PFAS. Main points include:

- **Discontinuation of AFFF** except in emergencies
  - Any discharge to be contained/collected to the maximum extent
  - Fire personnel will be equipped with personal protective equipment
- **Storage and disposal:**
  - Sites may store AFFF on site as required for safety systems and lifesaving emergencies.
  - Disposal of PFAS is suspended pending further guidance.
- **Reporting** any PFAS release or spill to DOE HQ
- A **PFAS Coordinating Committee (PCC)** was established to guide implementation of the memo's requirements

PFAS Coordinating Committee (PCC)

PCC Mission: Track progress in meeting the requirements identified in the Policy, identify necessary changes to Departmental orders and directives or regulations to achieve Policy objectives, and initiate coordination with the Directives Review Board to implement necessary changes to Departmental directives.

- **Explore** opportunities for DOE laboratories to work with interagency and external partners
- **Clarify** the additional resources needed to support research, testing, characterization, and possible remediation activities
- **Serve** as a management-level counterpart to the existing DOE PFAS Working Group
- **Provide** guidance and interpretation on aspects of the Policy, and will support a collaborative, consistent enterprise approach to the Policy's implementation

PCC Task Teams

- *Operational Task Team*
- *Historic Use and Release Research Task Team*
- *National Lab High Value Opportunities Task Team*
- *Communications Task Team*

DOE PFAS Roadmap

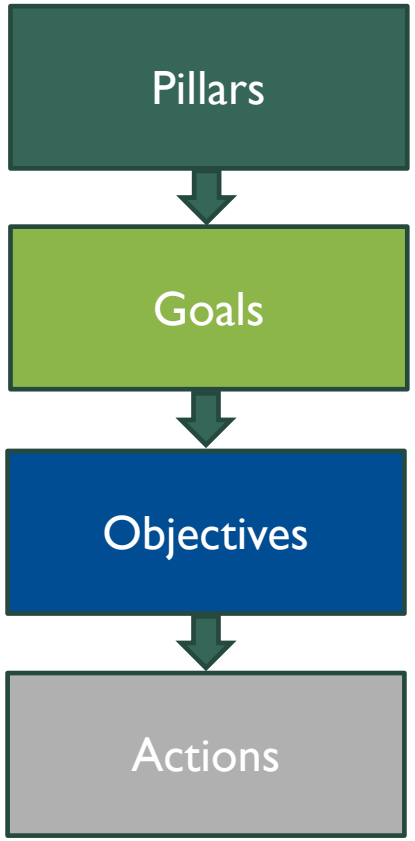
Departmental PFAS Mission Statement:
Protect human health and the environment by assessing and addressing PFAS at DOE sites while deploying the Department's scientific expertise to solve PFAS challenges

Remediation at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL)

Photo: Installation of underground piping connecting groundwater extraction wells to a PFAS treatment system

DOE PFAS Roadmap

The Department's approach to addressing PFAS



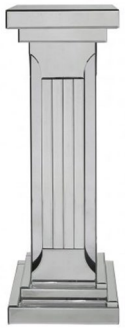
Understand

Develop information concerning PFAS uses and environmental releases

Manage and Protect

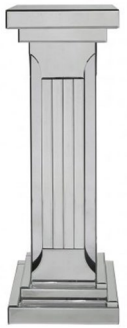
Safeguard the health and well-being of our employees, the public, and the environment

Advance Solutions



Leverage expertise at DOE's National Laboratories and collaborate with research partners

Communicate and Collaborate



Engage with regulators, tribal nations, local communities, and stakeholders

DOE PFAS Roadmap

Upcoming Actions
Initial PFAS Risk Management Policy
Procurement Guidance (internal)
Preliminary Assessment Report
DOE PFAS Website
Historical/Current Use Records Search Guidance (internal)
PFAS Research Plan
Disposal Guidance

PFAS Preliminary Assessment

- DOE program offices (EM, NE, NNSA, LM, SC, FECM, EE, NR) conducted a preliminary survey of PFAS inventories, usage and existing historical information
- **Survey Objective-** To provide an initial understanding of PFAS use and presence at DOE sites, including:
  - Historical usage
  - Potential sources and inventories
  - Drinking water supply and sampling status
  - Regulator or other stakeholder inquiries and requests
  - Detections in environment
  - Routine monitoring programs
  - Potential or known off-site migration
- The DOE is preparing a Department wide report to summarize the information.

PFAS Preliminary Assessment – Key Takeaways

Drinking Water

- Most DOE sites surveyed are supplied by offsite Public Water Systems
- There is no indication PFOA/PFOS are present at concentrations greater than the current EPA lifetime health advisories at surveyed sites with onsite drinking water sources.
- DOE will soon have PFAS data on drinking water from the few sites that need to sample their onsite sources

Historical and Current Uses

- Historically, several DOE facilities stored, used and disposed of PFAS-containing products
- Identifying historical and current PFAS inventories continues as DOE better understands its past and present inventories.

PFAS Preliminary Assessment – Key Takeaways

Occurrence in the Environment

- A limited number of sites have sampled for PFAS
- Groundwater is the primary media sampled for PFAS
- Four sites have active PFAS monitoring programs (Rocky Flats, Savannah River Site, Brookhaven National Lab, Los Alamos National Lab)

Regulatory and Stakeholder Engagement

- Tribal nations have not contacted DOE directly on PFAS
- Engagement has resulted in additional records searches, discrete environmental sampling events, and establishment of environmental monitoring programs.

DOE Next Steps

Issue PFAS Roadmap and DOE preliminary PFAS Assessment	
Understand	Gather and analyze PFAS data to fill knowledge gaps and inform site-specific risk management
Manage and Protect	Take steps to protect DOE workers, the public and the environment
Advance Solutions	Expand the body of knowledge and develop technological solutions to address PFAS issues
Communicate and Collaborate	Inform and engage stakeholders