



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, HAMPTON ROADS
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NORFOLK, VA 23551-2419

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Ser N00/85
19 Feb 19

Subj: NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY HAMPTON ROADS-NORTHWEST ANNEX
DRINKING WATER TESTING

1. The safety and health of our military and civilian personnel on the installation are a top priority. With this in mind, as the installation Commanding Officer, I want to inform you of plans to conduct testing of our drinking water.

2. The Navy has proactively developed a requirement to resample the finished drinking water at Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPACT) Hampton Roads-Northwest Annex (NWA) for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) which is present in certain groundwater locations at NAVSUPACT Hampton Roads-NWA due to past uses of the firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF).

3. Drinking water at NAVSUPACT Hampton Roads-NWA was historically withdrawn from two well fields at the facility (Well Field 1 and Well Field 2). Well Field 1 has been inactive since 2014 due to detections of petroleum in the supply wells. The water currently supplied to the facility by Well Field 2 was sampled in 2016 following Navy policy. During that test, PFAS was detected, however, the concentrations were well below the lifetime health advisory of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). Unrelated to any known or suspected releases of PFAS, groundwater samples were recently collected from drinking water supply wells at Well Field 1 to support the design of drinking water treatment options for the well field. The results of these groundwater samples (analytical results received in December 2018) show that PFAS was detected in the inactive water supply wells at Well Field 1 at concentrations exceeding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lifetime health advisory. As a result of the testing from the inactive Well Field 1, we are re-testing Well Field 2 for PFAS presence.

4. The EPA classifies these PFAS chemicals as unregulated, "emerging" contaminants, which are not subject to Safe Drinking Water Act regulatory standards or routine water quality testing requirements. PFAS are man-made chemicals used in numerous commercial and industrial products that are of increasing national concern by the Department of Defense, the Navy, and

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other federal and state agencies. The EPA is currently studying two of the PFAS chemicals, perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), to determine whether regulation is needed. In May 2016, the EPA released a lifetime health advisory level of 70 ppt for PFOS and PFOA. The EPA established this advisory level for exposure from drinking water to provide Americans, including the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection from a lifetime of exposure to PFOS and/or PFOA from drinking water.

5. In response to the EPA lifetime health advisory, the Navy voluntarily established a proactive policy to ensure that our installation, housing residents, and surrounding communities are not exposed to drinking water impacted from a known or suspected Navy release of PFOS and/or PFOA. If the Navy sampling of the finished drinking water is found to contain PFOS and/or PFOA above the EPA lifetime health advisory of 70 ppt, the Navy will provide bottled drinking water or an alternate drinking water supply for drinking and cooking. We will continue to provide alternate drinking water until a long-term solution is in place.

6. As we proceed:

a. We will be testing the finished drinking water withdrawn from Well Field 2.

b. We will inform you of the results once testing is complete and we will keep you informed of any actions we are taking to minimize exposure to PFAS in drinking water.

c. If the results show exceedance of the PFAS lifetime health advisory, then the Navy will provide an alternate source of water for drinking and cooking immediately.

7. The Navy is working in partnership with the EPA Region 3, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Region 3, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Virginia Department of Health, as well as the City of Chesapeake.

8. For additional information, please review enclosures:

- Enclosure (2), NAVSUPACT Northwest Annex PFAS Drinking Water Investigation Fact Sheet,

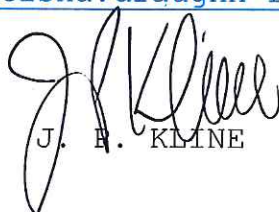
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- Enclosure (3), U.S. EPA Fact Sheet: PFOA and PFOS Drinking Water Health Advisories, and/or
- NAVSUPPACT Northwest Annex website at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/NWADrinkingwaterInfo>

9. We invite you to attend an open house on February 28, 2019 at the NAVSUPPACT NWA Gymnasium Building 348. You may stop by any time between 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. We will have subject matter experts on hand to present information about this investigation and assist you with any further questions.

10. If you are unable to attend at this time, we will be hosting an additional session on February 28, 2019 at the Mariner Community Recreation Center from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

11. We are committed to keeping you informed every step of the way as we complete the testing process at NAVSUPPACT Hampton Roads NWA. If you have any immediate concerns, please contact Katisha Draughn-Fraguada, the installation Public Affairs Officer, at 757-836-1484 or Katisha.draughn-frag@navy.mil.



J. H. KLINE