



OVERVIEW OF TESTING RESULTS FOR PERFLUORINATED COMPOUNDS (PFCs) AND FOLLOW-ON ACTIONS FOR NALF FENTRESS

The safety and health of our military and civilian personnel at NALF Fentress are a top priority. The Navy has proactively sampled the drinking water at NALF Fentress and other select installations for perfluorinated compounds (PFCs). PFCs are unregulated or “emerging” contaminants, which have no Safe Drinking Water Act regulatory standards or routine water quality testing requirements. PFCs are currently being studied by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to determine if regulation is needed. Until a decision on regulating PFCs is made, the Navy has proactively developed a policy to ensure on-base drinking water has not been impacted by PFC contamination at installations where there has been a nearby known or suspected release of PFCs to the environment.

PFCs have been used in a variety of products and substances; the most common historical Navy use of the substances has been as a fire extinguishing surfactant in Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF). Testing was performed for NALF Fentress because AFFF was released to the ground surface during training exercises in past years.

Navy environmental personnel tested the drinking water produced by the Navy-owned Fentress Treatment Plant on December 30th, 2015. One sample was collected from the water and sent to a state-certified laboratory for analysis. The results of the analysis indicate that two PFC parameters, Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), tested higher than the EPA Provisional Health Advisory (PHA) levels; PHAs are health based concentrations above which action should be taken to reduce exposure to PFOA and PFOS. The EPA's Office of Water established a PHA of 0.2 parts per billion (ppb) for PFOS and 0.4 ppb for PFOA.

While EPA does not enforce PHA levels, in an abundance of caution, Navy policy requires taking action with additional testing and follow-on actions if a PFC sample exceeds the PHA in Navy drinking water systems. As our first immediate response, we will be providing alternative drinking water (e.g. bottled water) until these levels can be reduced below the PHAs.

A copy of the test results is provided for your information in Table 1 below.

Table 1 provides the *Initial Sampling Results* and additional information for each parameter using the following columns: *Parameter, Drinking Water, EPA PHA Level, Exceeds EPA PHA Level, Unit, and Follow-on Actions*. The *Parameter* column lists the name and acronym of the parameter tested. The *Drinking Water* column shows the result the finished water sampling location. The *EPA PHA Level* column and the *Exceeds EPA PHA* column confirm whether the results exceeded the parameter's PHA level and follow-on actions are required. The *Follow-on Actions* column describes immediate actions to reduce exposure, and additional actions to remediate and ensure levels in the drinking water system will be reduced below the PHAs. In the event that additional follow-on sampling is required, follow-on drinking water sampling results will be provided separately at: <http://1.usa.gov/1QbwtwN>

To learn more about the emerging contaminants, PFOS and PFOA, please see this EPA fact sheet at: <http://1.usa.gov/1QbweBI>

To answer any questions you may have on the sampling program contact the NAS Oceana Public Affairs Officer at **757-433-3155**.

If you have any health questions or concerns, we encourage you to contact your health care provider or our medical representative, LCDR Robert Uniszkiwicz, at **757-953-5080**, or Dr. David Hiland, at **757-953-3773**.

Parameter	Drinking Water Concentrations	EPA PHA Level	Exceeds EPA PHA Level	Unit	Corrective Actions
Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS)	1	0.2	Yes	ppb*	The Navy will provide bottled water until levels are reduced below PHA. All base personnel will be notified prior to future sample events and notified of the results.
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	1.8	0.4	Yes	ppb*	

*1 part per billion (ppb) = 1 microgram per liter (ug/L)

