



WHY IS THE NAVY SAMPLING FOR PFCs?

Background

- Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) are unregulated contaminants that are being sampled for the first time in Public Water Systems
- US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water
 - Monitoring is required for public water systems serving > 10,000 persons
 - Data collection began in 2013 and will continue through 2016
- EPA is working to improve its understanding of the prevalence and toxicity of PFCs to determine if safe drinking water regulatory limits are needed
- EPA issued Provisional Health Advisories (PHAs) for the PFCs, PFOS and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) in 2009
 - The PHAs are reasonable health based hazard concentrations, above which actions should be taken to reduce exposure
 - Laboratories were only recently capable of analyzing for these contaminants

The PHA for PFOS is 0.2 ug/L or 0.2 parts per billion
The PHA for PFOA is 0.4 ug/L or 0.4 parts per billion

Navy Response

- 2014-2015 - In an abundance of caution, recent Navy policy required drinking water sampling and testing for PFCs be done at Navy installations world-wide
- November 2015 - Review of site history revealed a fire fighting training area used by the base from 1969 to mid-1980s. Other potential source areas identified include the Fire Fighting Equipment Test area, Fentress Landfill, and a former aircraft crash site
- December 2015 - Environmental monitoring wells were installed and sampled. Water level gauging was conducted to evaluate the groundwater flow direction.
- 30 December 2015 - NALF Fentress drinking water sampled for PFCs
- 19 January 2016 - Validated drinking water and groundwater results provided by contractor
- 20 January 2016 - PFC test results were communicated to NALF personnel and alternate drinking water source was provided

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)



Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Drinking Water website
<http://1.usa.gov/1QbwtwN>

EPA Emerging Contaminants Fact Sheet
<http://1.usa.gov/1QbweBl>

Drinking water produced at NALF Fentress meets all Federal and State Requirements.
 Navy PFC testing and response goes beyond these requirements to protect our sailors and civilians.