

**Hazardous Sites Clean-up Under the Act of October 18, 1988**  
**Notice of Prompt Interim Response**

**Newberry Township PFC Site**  
**Newberry and Fairview Townships, York County, Pennsylvania**

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), under the authority of the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act (HSCA) (35 P.S. §§6020.101-6020.1305) has initiated a prompt interim response at the Newberry Township PFC site (Site). The prompt interim response has been initiated pursuant to Sections 501(a) and 505(b) of the HSCA (35 P.S. §§6020.501(a) and 6020-505(b)).

The Site is located in Newberry and Fairview Townships, York County. Groundwater serving a number of residential and commercial wells and springs in the area of Newberry and Fairview Townships is contaminated with Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), a large class of man-made synthetic chemicals. The Site includes a mix of residential, commercial, and light-industrial properties. Public-water supply is interspersed throughout much of the Site. At the present time, the source(s) and extent of PFAS contamination has not been identified or determined.

On January 14, 2023 the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board amended Chapter 109 (§ 109.202 amended under section 4 of the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act) by setting maximum contaminant level goals (MCLGs) and maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) of 14 and 18 nanograms per liter (ng/L), respectively. Exposure to concentrations of PFOA and PFOS above the MCLs pose a threat to human health when ingested in water.

DEP has sampled private, commercial, and public-supply wells, monitor wells, springs, streams, and ponds since 2019 at the Site. The sampling has confirmed the presence of PFAS in groundwater and surface water. The sampling has identified 13 residential/commercial and 2 public-supply wells/springs that exceed the current Pennsylvania MCLs for PFOA and/or PFOS.

DEP considered three alternatives:

**Alternative 1. No Action**

This alternative serves as a baseline and involves taking no action to remove, remediate, or contain the contaminated groundwater or reduce threats to human health at the Site. Risks posed by ingestion of water from contaminated private-water supplies would remain.

**Alternative 2. Provision of Bottled Water and Institutional Controls**

This alternative provides for DEP to furnish commercial bottled water to impacted residences and businesses. Bottled water would be delivered regularly to each residence and business that has a water-supply contaminated in excess of the MCLs for PFOA

and/or PFOS throughout the course of the Site investigation. This would reduce the risk posed by ingestion of water above the MCLs and thus provide an increase in protection of human health and the environment. The present annual cost of this alternative for an assumed four-person residence is \$7,100. In addition, DEP would implement activity and use limitations (AULs) either through environmental covenants or administrative orders. Environmental covenants or administrative orders would be placed on deed records that would alert new property owners, and prospective property purchasers, of the health risks for continued use of contaminated private water-supplies.

### Alternative 3. Installation of Point Of Entry Treatment (POET) Systems and Institutional Controls

Under this alternative, POET systems would be installed by DEP at homes and businesses that utilize private-water supply wells or springs impacted by contamination above the established MCLs for PFOA and PFOS. DEP will provide bottled water until the POET systems are installed. Once installed, DEP will provide for the continuing operation and maintenance (O&M) of the POET systems throughout the course of the Site investigation. Should this alternative be selected as a final response action, then property owners would be responsible for continued O&M activities. In addition, DEP would implement AULs either through environmental covenants or administrative orders placed on deed records that would alert new property owners, and prospective property purchasers, of the health risks for continued use of contaminated private water-supplies. Notification will be placed on deed records and indicate that DEP has installed a POET system in order to mitigate potential threat to human health from the contaminated water-supply.

This alternative will be protective of human health. This alternative will comply with the applicable requirement that drinking-water use of groundwater meet the MCLs. The exhausted or “spent” carbon will be removed for regeneration or disposal in accordance with applicable regulations.

Initial installation of a POET system is estimated to cost \$6,000 per unit. Annual carbon change out and UV-light replacement is estimated at \$1,500. Annual sampling and analytical monitoring costs are estimated at \$1,000 per system.

DEP has selected Alternative 3 as the prompt interim response. Bottled water will be delivered for residences and businesses that exceed the MCLs for PFOA and/or PFOS until a POET can be installed at the impacted properties. These systems will be monitored and maintained by DEP until further notice.

DEP is providing this notice under sections 505(b) and 506(b) of HSCA (35 P.S. Sections 6020.505(b) and 6020.506(b)), and the publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* starts the administrative record period under HSCA. The Administrative Record which contains information about this Site and which supports DEP’s decision to perform this action at the Site is available for public review and comment. The Administrative Record can be examined Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the DEP’s South Central Regional Office

located at 909 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110, by contacting Mr. Dennis Low at 717-705-4853. The Administrative Record can also be reviewed online at [Newberry Township PFC Site \(pa.gov\)](#).

The Administrative record will be open for comment from the date of publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on 12-30-2023 and will remain open for 90 days. Persons may submit written comments regarding this action to the Department before 03-31-2024, by mailing them to Mr. Low at the DEP South Central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200 or email to [delow@pa.gov](mailto:delow@pa.gov).

The public will have an opportunity to present oral comments regarding the proposed action at a public hearing. The hearing has been scheduled for February 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Cross Roads Middle School Auditorium, 535 Fishing Creek Road, Lewisberry, PA. Persons wishing to present formal oral comment at the hearing should register before 4:00 p.m., February 13, 2024 by calling John Repetz at 717-705-4904 ([jrepetz@pa.gov](mailto:jrepetz@pa.gov)). There will be an informational presentation of the DEP's activities at this site prior to the public hearing.

If no person registers to present oral comments, by February 13, 2024 the hearing will not be held, but will be replaced with an informational meeting. Persons interested in finding out if anyone has registered, and if the hearing will be held, should also contact John Repetz at the number listed above.

Persons with a disability who wish to attend the hearing and require an auxiliary aid, service or other accommodation to participate in the proceedings, should call John Repetz at the above number or through the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at 1-800-654-5984 (TDD) to discuss how the Department may accommodate their needs.