

From: [EP, SERO ECB](#)
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Subject: Bishop Tube HSCA Site Community Update
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**Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection**

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) would like to provide you with an update regarding the Bishop Tube HSCA Site (the Site), located in East Whiteland Township, Chester County.

On September 1, 2026, DEP accepted the [Data Gap Pre-Design Investigation Report Volume 2: Groundwater and Surface Water](#) (PDF), prepared by DEP's GTAC contractor, Groundwater & Environmental Services, Inc (GES). The purposes of the groundwater and surface water data gap pre-design investigation were to

1. install a new nested monitoring well set in the vicinity of the western Village Way cul-de-sac to investigate a groundwater quality data gap in that area; and
2. conduct a groundwater and surface water sampling event that includes the full monitoring well network to evaluate for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), hexavalent chromium, and all other current Site contaminants of concern (COCs).

GES completed the activities between March and June 2026. The following conclusions can be drawn based on review of the analytical results:

- Chlorinated solvents were detected at concentrations above the PA Act 2 Residential standard in the newly installed nested monitoring well set. These exceedances indicate that the shallow and intermediate bedrock zones are impacted on the east side of Little Valley Creek and in closer proximity to the residential homes on the west end of Village Way than had been originally identified.
- Groundwater elevations, related flow directions, and gradients are

consistent with previous investigations. However, localized mounding and sinks observed in the intermediate and deep bedrock groundwater monitoring zones may affect localized flow dynamics within the impacted plume area.

- Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) were detected at concentrations above the PA Act 2 Residential standard in groundwater samples.
- PFOA and PFOS were detected at concentrations above relevant surface water screening values in all sampling locations.
- Hexavalent chromium was detected at concentrations above the applicable surface water screening criteria in all sampling locations, except the most upstream location.

The Volume 2 report makes several recommendations, based on GES's conclusions, which DEP will adopt during response action implementation. The recommendations in the report include, but are not limited to:

- An additional investigation to the east of the Source Property, including:
 - Implementation of a supplemental vapor intrusion (VI) assessment in the vicinity of the newly installed monitoring well set with an evaluation of potential preferential vapor migration pathways. Although previous VI investigations carried out in this area did not identify VI risk concerns, this recommendation is precautionary to ensure the protection of nearby residents, who may be impacted.
 - The installation and sampling of additional monitoring wells to the southeast and east-southeast of the newly installed monitoring well set to further define the extent of impacts in the overburden and shallow bedrock zones in this area of the Site.
- Additional investigation along the northern edge of the approximate TCE plume boundary, including:
 - Implementation of a supplemental vapor intrusion (VI) evaluation, including an evaluation of potential preferential vapor migration

pathways. Although previous VI investigations carried out in this area did not identify VI risk concerns, this recommendation is precautionary to ensure the protection of nearby residents, who may be impacted.

- Potential installation and sampling of an additional monitoring well south of Conestoga Road and within the current approximate extent of the TCE plume to further define the extent of impacts in the overburden and shallow bedrock zones in this area of the Site.
- Based on the widespread detections and exceedances of select PFAS compounds in groundwater, a plume-wide evaluation of PFAS mixtures is recommended to determine concentrations of various compounds spatially across the plume. This information will be utilized to determine potential off-site sources and/or additional source areas.

In the coming months, DEP will schedule a public meeting to discuss the results of the Pre-Design Investigation and next steps.

In addition, on September 1, 2026, DEP sent a [letter](#) (PDF) to representatives from Johnson Matthey Inc., Whittaker Corporation, and Marcegaglia USA, Inc., notifying them that it will be necessary to draw down from the \$2,500,000 Financial Assurances Fund, established in the proposed consent decree, to address the additional response activities recommended in the Data Gap Pre-Design Investigation Report.

Thank you for your continued interest in DEP's work at the [Bishop Tube HSCA Site](#). DEP will continue to send "Community Updates" via email when new information on the Site becomes available.

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