



**Statement Responding to Solvay Announcement of Sample Results:
Delaware Riverkeeper Network calls on NJDEP and Solvay to release more details of
PFNA private drinking well study in Gloucester County.
6/27/14**

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is calling on the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and Solvay Specialty Polymers to release the exact levels of PFNA discovered in drinking wells in West Deptford and East Greenwich, Gloucester County. Solvay officials issued a press release yesterday saying seven of 50 private wells sampled in the two communities had only “quantifiable” levels of PFNA. The testing is part of an ongoing study to determine the extent of PFNA contamination in the area.

In a press release, the company says it will only release the aggregate results in order to protect the privacy of homeowners. The Delaware Riverkeeper Network believes the results for all 50 wells sampled should be released without listing specific addresses. The NJ DEP has been provided with the sampling results. According to the Delaware Riverkeeper Network the public should see how high these levels are rather than allow Solvay to provide vague descriptions of the problem.

As the result of an open public record’s act request last year from the Delaware Riverkeeper Network the NJ DEP finally released the results of a 2009 study of the occurrence of perfluorinated chemicals such as PFNA in drinking water. That study found the highest levels of PFC’s in the water supplies for Paulsboro which is just two miles from the Solvay Solexis Plant in West Deptford. According to a NJ Department of Health fact sheet PFCs cause developmental, immune and other problems in laboratory animals.

As a result of a Delaware Riverkeeper Network request the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry is investigating the exposure of residents in the region to PFNA and other perfluorinated chemicals.

The NJ DEP should move forward with adopting maximum contaminant levels for PFC’s in drinking water based on the recommendations of the NJ Drinking Water Quality Institute.

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