



For Immediate Release
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Delaware Riverkeeper Network Statement on USEPA proposed PFAS safe drinking water regulations

Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) wholeheartedly endorses the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulatory action to require the removal of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from drinking water nationwide. The EPA announced today its plan to propose National Primary Drinking Water Regulation rulemaking in the near future for six PFAS compounds. A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PFOA of 4 ppt and for PFOS of 4 ppt will be proposed based on the most recent scientific evidence. Four other PFAS will be regulated as mixtures through a hazard index – PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and GenX (HFPO-DA).

"This action by EPA will finally begin the process to provide equal protection for all Americans from toxic exposure through drinking water to some of the worst and most prevalently found PFAS compounds," said Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director, Delaware Riverkeeper Network. "The science-based foundation developed by EPA for this rule provides incontrovertible evidence of the enormous risks to health posed by these PFAS compounds, including declaring both PFOA and PFOS to be "likely carcinogens". The benefits calculated by EPA include the prevention of tens of thousands of deaths per year, making immediate action imperative. The federal rule has been a long time coming and we will advocate that the public rulemaking process move ahead on urgent footing," added Carluccio.

In the absence of federal primary drinking water standards, states have been leading the regulation of PFAS with 10 states adopting PFAS MCLs in recent years, including New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York. These state standards have provided the removal of certain PFAS compounds from drinking water. Once the MCLs and Hazard Indexes are finalized and adopted by EPA, all states will be required to comply with the EPA standards or adopt stricter MCLs. For more information on DRN's 18 years of work on PFAS:

<https://www.delawariverkeeper.org/ongoing-issues/perfluorooctanoic-acid>

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