

**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). Specifically, this 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). Notice of this this action was initially published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on December 30, 2023, and a corresponding public hearing was scheduled for February 13, 2024. See 50 Pa.B. 8131 (Dec. 30, 2023). However, due to the weather-related cancellation of the previously scheduled public hearing, DEP has opted to republish notice of this action, extend the public comment period an additional ninety (90) days from the publication of this notice, and reschedule the public hearing.

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 Section 202 of the Drinking Water Regulations, 25 Pa. Code § 109.202, and established maximum contaminant level goals (MCLGs) and maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). MCLs for PFOA and PFOS were set to 14 and 18 nanograms per liter (ng/L), respectively. See 25 Pa. Code § 109.202(a)(4)(i) – (ii). 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. From the sample results, DEP confirmed the presence of PFAS in groundwater and surface water. Specifically, thirteen (13) residential/commercial and two (2) public-supply wells/springs were found to contain PFOA and/or PFOS in excess of their respective MCLs. Id.

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 PFOA and/or PFOS MCLs throughout the course of the Site investigation. This would reduce the risk posed by ingestion of water containing PFOA and PFAS 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 seven thousand one hundred dollars (\$7,100). In addition, DEP would implement activity and use limitations (AULs) either through environmental covenants or administrative orders. Said 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 also be placed on deed records that would 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 and will comply with the applicable requirement that ground water utilized for drinking-water use will comply the PFOA and PFOS MCLs. See 25 Pa. Code § 109.202(a)(4)(i) – (ii). 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 six thousand dollars (\$6,000) per unit. Annual carbon change out and UV-light replacement is estimated at one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500). Annual sampling and analytical monitoring costs are estimated at one thousand dollars (\$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 PFOA and/or PFOS MCLs until a POET can be installed on the wells at the impacted properties. These systems will be monitored and maintained by DEP until further notice.

DEP is providing notice of this action under HSCA Sections 505(b) and 506(b), 35 P.S. §§ 6020.505(b) and 6020.506(b). The public comment period on this action, and its attendant administrative record, will extend an additional ninety (90) days from the publication date of this notice, to June 14, 2024. The administrative record, which contains information about this Site and supports DEP's decision to perform this action, is available for public review and comment. The administrative record can be examined Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, 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:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/About/Regional/SouthcentralRegion/Community%20Information/Pages/Newberry-Township-PFC-Site.aspx>. Persons may submit written comments regarding this action to the Department 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), by June 14, 2024.

The public will have an opportunity to present oral comments regarding the proposed action at a public hearing that has been rescheduled for April 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM 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 PM, April 17, 2024 by calling John Repetz at 717-705-4904. There will be an informational presentation on DEP's activities at the Site prior to the public hearing.

If no person registers to present oral comments, by April 17, 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.