

# OCWD/MWDOC JOINT PLANNING PFAS UPDATE

#### July 24, 2019 Jason Dadakis Executive Director of Water Quality & Technical Resources



#### Outline

- Background
- CA Regulatory Update
- Other States' Actions
- Pilot Testing & Planning Study
- Legislative Actions
- Outreach

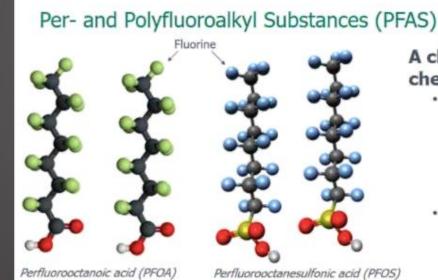


## BACKGROUND



# What Are PFAS, PFOA & PFOS?

- PFAS = Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (family of 1000s of chemicals)
- PFOA = Perfluorooctanoic Acid ( $C_8HF_{15}O_2$ )
- PFOS = Perfluorooctane Sulfonate ( $C_8HF_{17}O_3S$ )





#### A class of man-made chemicals

- Chains of carbon (C) atoms surrounded by fluorine (F) atoms
  - Water-repellent (hydrophobic)
  - Stable C-F bond
- Some PFAS include oxygen, hydrogen, sulfur and/or nitrogen atoms, creating a polar end



#### PFAS Used Across A Wide Range of Industries and Consumer Products: <u>Water/Oil/Stain Resistant</u>





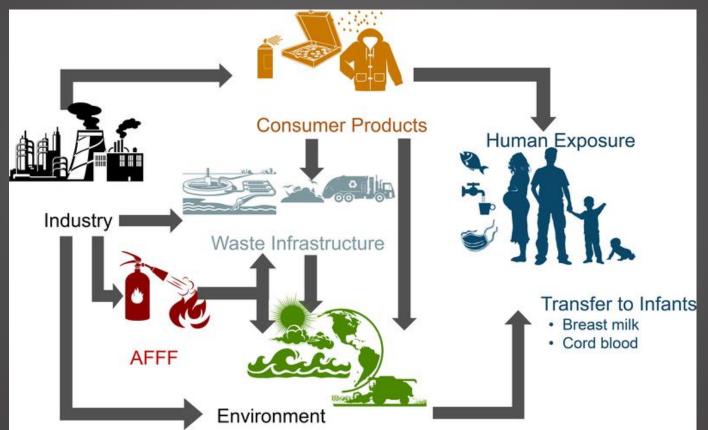






# **PFAS Exposure Pathways**

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT





## **REGULATORY UPDATE**



## **OCWD PFAS Timeline**

- **2009:** USEPA Provisional Health Advisories for PFOA & PFOS
  - PFOA = 400 ng/L
  - PFOS = 200 ng/L
- **2012:** WRF PFAS study includes GWRS testing
- 2013 2015: OCWD lab performs UCMR3 for Producers
- **2016:** USEPA Lifetime Health Advisory: PFOA + PFOS = 70 ng/L
- **2018 (July)**: CA DDW issues interim Notification & Response Levels
  - NL PFOA = 14 ng/L
  - NL PFOS = 13 ng/L
  - RL PFOA + PFOS = 70 ng/L
- 2019 (March): CA DDW issues PFAS Monitoring Orders to 12 Producers



#### **California Notification & Response Levels Are Unique**

- Defined generally in state law (Health and Safety §116455)
- Idea is to provide advisory levels ahead of enforceable MCLs
- Specifics on how to determine are **DDW policy**
- **Only legal requirement:** notification of governing body if > Notification Level
- All other actions are **recommendations from DDW policy**
- Setting Notification and Response Levels does not require
  - Peer review
  - Public notice
  - Public comment



#### Producers with One or More Recent Monitoring Order Results Greater Than DDW Interim NLs for PFOA or PFOS

#### **Producer**

Anaheim

**East Orange County Water District** 

**City of Fullerton** 

**City of Garden Grove** 

**Irvine Ranch Water District** 

**City of Orange** 

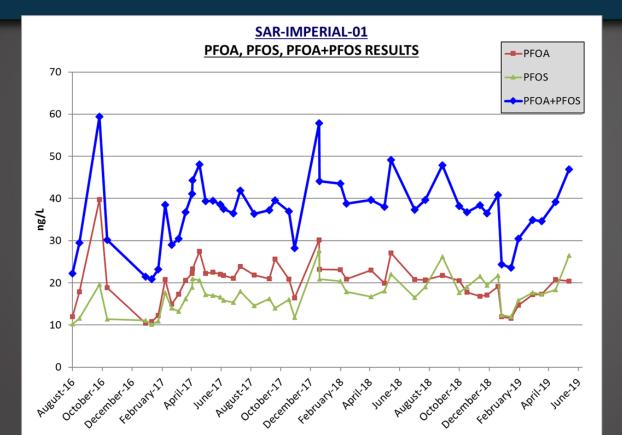
**City of Santa Ana** 

**Serrano Water District** 

Yorba Linda Water District



#### Santa Ana River at Imperial Hwy



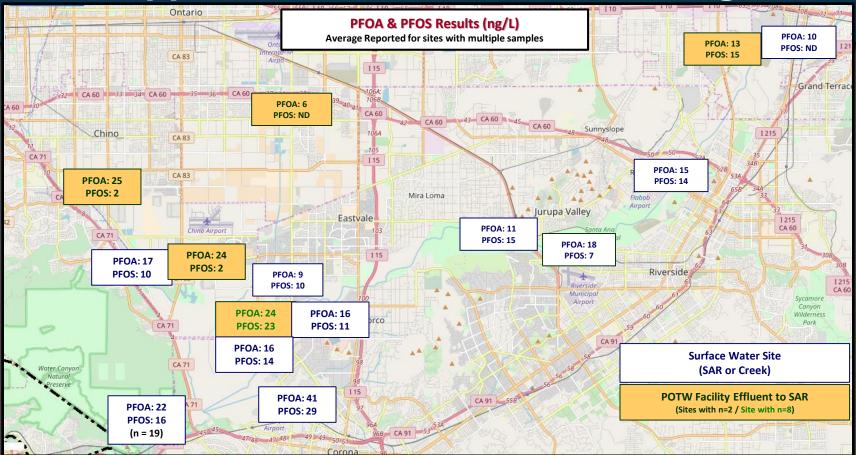
<u>Aug 2016 –</u> <u>Present</u>

Averages (ng/L) PFOA: 20 PFOS: 17 PFOA+PFOS: 37

<u>Min / Max (ng/L)</u> PFOA: 10 / 40 PFOS: 10 / 28 PFOA+PFOS: 21 / 59



#### **Upper SAR Watershed Monitoring**





#### **Proposed Reductions to DDW NLs & RLs**

- Based OEHHA review of recent National Toxicology Program (NTP) study data
- "Lowest observed effect"/1 in 1 million cancer risk estimate
  - PFOA = 0.1 ng/L (pancreatic cancer endpoint)
  - PFOS = 0.4 ng/L

Standard	PFAS Compound	Current	Proposed	Adjustment from "lowest observed effect" level
Notification Level	PFOA	14 ng/L	5.1 ng/L	Reliable Detection Limit
Notification Level	PFOS	13 ng/L	6.5 ng/L	Reliable Detection Limit
Response Level	PFOA	70	10 ng/L	100x 1-in-1-million cancer risk
Response Level	PFOS	70 ppt combined	40 ng/L	100x 1-in-1-million cancer risk



#### **Effects of Lowering DDW Response Level**

- Two Producer wells in OCWD area above current/previous 70 ng/L PFOA + PFOS RL
- Reducing Response Level to PFOA = 10 ppt and PFOS = 40 ppt
  - 39 of 51 OC wells tested under Monitoring Orders will exceed RL in OCWD area
  - Project ~71 out of ~200 OCWD area wells would exceed (~100,000 acre-ft of annual pumping)
- Preliminary estimate of OCWD area financial Impacts
  - 39 wells lost = \$30 million/yr in replacement treated imported water
  - 71 wells lost = \$50 million/yr in replacement imported water
  - Wellhead treatment for 71 wells =  $\sim$ \$200 million capital + additional annual O&M



#### **DDW Database\*: Other Counties & Agencies Affected**

- Los Angeles County
  - Santa Clarita Valley Water
  - Pico Rivera
  - Glendale
  - Montebello
  - La Habra Heights
- Riverside County
  - Corona
  - Riverside
  - Elsinore Valley
  - Rubidoux CSD
  - Desert Water Agency

- San Luis Obispo County
- Alameda County
  - Zone 7 Water Agency
  - Pleasanton
- Butte County
  - Cal Water Service Co Chico
  - Cal water Service Co. Oroville
- Riverside County
  - Eastern Municipal Water District
- \* 75% of Ordered Systems Reporting



## **July 3: Meeting in Sacramento**

- **OCWD:** Vicente Sarmiento, Mike Markus, Jason Dadakis
- Intertox: Richard Pleus, Ph.D.
- Lobbyists: Don Gilbert & Jason Gonsalves
- Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency: Matt Stone
- Cabinet Secretary: Jared Blumenfeld
- State Board Chair: Joaquin Esquivel
- **Deputy Director (DDW):** Darrin Polhemus
- **OEHHA Director:** Lauren Zeise, Ph.D.





## **July 5: Secretary Blumenfeld Phone Call**

- Notification and Response Levels will be set separately
- Subsequent DDW indicates NL to be released on July 24
  - OEHHA to release basis for NL (i.e., use of underlying NTP study)
  - OEHHA to announce beginning of Public Health Goal (PHG) process
- State to hold "Science Webinar" in September 2019
- New Response Level will be set in October 2019



## **OTHER STATES' ACTIONS**

State	Туре	PFOA (ng/L)	PFOS (ng/L)	Other PFAS
MI	Advisory Panel Recommendation	8	16	
MN	Health Based Guidance for Water	35	15	PFBS, PFHxS, PFBA,
NH	Proposed MCL	12	15	PFHxS = 18, PFNA = 11
NJ	Pending MCL	14	13	PFNA = 13
NY	Proposed MCL	10	10	
VT	Drinking Water Health Advisory 20 combi		ined w/ PFHxS, PFHpa, & PFNA	
PA	Proposed MCL (via legislation)	5	5	
WI	Proposed Standard	20 combined		
MA	Proposed MCL	20 combined w/ PFHxS, PFHpA, & PFNA		



# OCWD PILOT TREATMENT & PLANNING STUDIES



# **PFAS Treatment Technologies**



Carbon Adsorption: granular activated carbon (GAC)

Ion Exchange (IX) resin

 More conventional treatment, site specific, WQ factors in, footprint area also



Reverse Osmosis or Nanofiltration (RO or NF)

Higher capital cost, concentrate disposal



#### **OCWD Field Pilot Testing**

- Pilot test skid delivered on July 22nd
- Pilot will assess GAC & IX (4-slots)
  - Phase I = Calgon + Evoqua GAC & Purolite & Dow
  - Phase 2 = TBD based on lab results + consultant rec.
- Laboratory bench-scale testing of GAC and NF
- Lab work to assess multiple groundwaters
- Goal: inform & accelerate local retail agencies' potential future treatment decisions
- Consultant support proposals under review





## **Planning Study with Producers**

- Goal: assess feasibility of treatment for individual Producers
  - Number of wells impacted
  - Location of wells impacted
  - Space available
  - Number of treatment systems required
  - Integration into Producer operations
  - DDW Permitting & CEQA assessment
  - Planning-level capital cost estimates
- Supplement to Treatment Pilot Testing activities
- RFP to be issued by July 26



## **LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**



## **State Legislation**

#### • AB 756 (C. Garcia) PFAS

- Amended to largely be redundant to current State Board regulations/policy
- Still contains some enhanced public notification requirements
- Passed Assembly & Senate, awaiting Governor's signature
- OCWD took an oppose position and sent a veto request to Governor

#### • AB 841 (Ting) PFAS

- Would require OEHHA to adopt a work plan by 2021
- Plan to assess which PFAS should be identified as a potential risk to human health
- Consideration given to PFAS likely to be present in CA water and feasible to detect
- OCWD took a support position; this bill is now a 2-year bill



## **Federal Legislation**

#### Senate: National Defense Authorization Act (S. 1790)

- S. 1507 amended into S. 1790 to mandate the establishment of a federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Sponsor: James Inhofe (R-OK)
- OCWD took a support position on S. 1507 provisions
- Status: S. 1790 Passed by the Senate

#### House: National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 2500)

- Adds PFAS to toxic pollutants list under Federal Water Pollution Control Act, allowing EPA to publish effluent & pretreatment standards. Sponsor: Chris Pappas (D-NH)
- Requires the EPA to list PFAS as hazardous substances under CERCLA within one year Sponsor: Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI)
- Status: H.R. 2500 Passed by the House

Differences in bills to be worked out in Conference Committee in Sept



## Legislative Outreach

- Orange County House Congressional Delegation, including joint letter to U.S. EPA seeking MCL standard coordinated through Congressman Correa's office
- OCWD met with Steven Cook, Deputy Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management
- Working with public stakeholders:
  - AWWA
  - AMWA
  - WEF
  - NACWA
  - CASA
  - ACWA
  - WateReuse
  - Solid Waste Companies



## **Outreach (Cont.)**

#### Meetings with State Elected Officials:

Senator John Moorlach Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris Assemblymember Steven Choi

#### Meetings with State Electeds' staff:

Senator Tom Umberg Senator Ling Ling Chang Senator Bob Archuleta Senator Patricia Bates Assemblymember Tom Daly Assemblymember Phillip Chen Assemblymember Tyler Diep

#### Meetings with Federal Elected Officials Congressman Harley Rouda

Congressman Gil Cisneros

#### Meetings with Federal Electeds' Staff:

Senator Dianne Feinstein Congresswoman Katie Porter Congressman Lou Correa Congressman Alan Lowenthal

Orange County Supervisors Chiefs of Staff To All OC Supervisors