



## Testimony for PFAS MCL Proposed Rulemaking

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Thank you for this opportunity.

*For the sake of clarity and brevity – I may interchange PFAS with Toxic Chemicals*

The Issue before us is SAFE DRINKING WATER –

In addition to being a Basic Human Right, it is also the sole responsibility of DEP to protect / preserve this and all natural resources for its citizenry.

Even if we eliminate “humans” from this directive, allowing known toxic chemicals such as PFAS in our waterways and water resources would be a dereliction of duty.

But humans are at the heart of the proposed rulemaking for PFAS.

The list of health risks cause by PFAS in our water is long and quite frankly scary – just two of these known risks:

- they weaken our immune systems
- that they are accumulative

is beyond comprehension especially when there are documented accounts that these toxic chemicals have been in our drinking water for decades.

DEP’s own independent study done by Drexel University found that the present Minimum Contaminant Level standards of PFAS are too high

and that the scope of the MCL is not broad enough to include all the known PFAS in PA water.

DEP’s response to this study?

They allege that the COST to address these findings is too GREAT

The COST –

I assume by Cost – DEP means a Financial Cost and not the Cost of:

- Human life
- The mounting cost of medical treatment for affected individuals
- The Cost of maintaining our biosphere’s life support systems.

No – by Costs – DEP is referring to “the Cost of Doing Business in PA”

Our present General Assembly consistently rejects any investment in Environmental Protection or Regulations

and since PFAS are found predominantly around certain manufacturing, military and fracking sites it is not a stretch to find the obstructing political forces . . . . just follow the money.

But when there is no water safe to drink,

No amount of money will quench the thirst of our Assembly members or anyone else.

I implore this Panel to reach beyond these obstructions and do the job for which you have been mandated

Because safeguarding our drinking water is worthy at any cost.

In closing, I leave you with the words of Bob Dylan:

*"There must be some way out of here  
Said the joker to the thief  
There's too much confusion  
I can't get no relief  
Business men, they drink my wine  
Plowmen dig my earth  
None of them along the line  
Know what any of it is worth"*