



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 9:12 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; Troutman, Nick; Glendon King; Franzese, Evan B.; Eyster, Emily; IRRC
Cc: c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Safe Drinking Water PFAS MCL Rule (#7-569)

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Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Safe Drinking Water PFAS MCL Rule (#7-569).

Commenter Information:

Eleanor Skibo
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, PA US

Comments entered:

April 26, 2022

Dear Department of Environmental Protection-DEP,

The Department of Environmental Protection-DEP, dutifully comprised environmental technicians to specialize in more detailed studies about the non-degradable substances 'forever chemicals'. These Per-and Polyfluoroallyl Substances-PFAS are linked to air, pollution, both drinking and ground water, soil, humans, and fish. PFAS found in some environmental levels contain both consumer and industrial water usage.

Unfortunately, these 'forever chemicals' have now been found in Pennsylvania's drinking water systems. The Keystone State of Pennsylvania is now placed in a state of urgency, demanding more protective rules be legislated and put into immediate action. If this happens, Pennsylvania's drinking water standards will then reach a much higher and safer level.

The Environmental Protection Agency-EPA has even identified 120,000 locations in the United States where people may have been, or are being exposed to PFAS.

According to the Boston University School of Public Health-BUSPH, researchers claim that a broad definition of PFAS may be beneficial in some scenarios, but very problematic in others.

In other words, is there even a right definition to be found when defining PFAS?

The broadly defined ones could include such drugs as Prozac, an anti-depressant, and Lipitor, a cholesterol lowering drug. Both contain organic fluorine, a compound often used in pharmaceuticals to lessen side affects in some drugs, and also enable other drugs to remain in the human system for a longer period of time.

These toxic man-made chemicals have actually been in various waterways since the 1940s. The name 'forever chemicals' was tagged to PFAS for its defiance to break down. These chemicals accumulate in soil, groundwater, drinking water, food products, industrial products, and even in human consumption of some medications. Some products that are/have been utilized by consumers are non-stick cookware, stain and water repellants for clothing, carpets, and mattresses, and hydraulic fluids for industrial use. And last but not least, certain medications used for human consumption. Actually cholesterol and thyroid levels may increase from the effects of PFAS, as well as, various types of cancers, but children's vaccine responses might even decrease.

Although 'forever chemicals' have been proven to bring about devastating results in different scenarios, it's hoped one of the main purposes of the DEP will be to give its complete and immediate attention to what Pennsylvanians are saying about PFAS. Hopefully, enough emphasis will be placed on PFAS, so the DEP's proposals will include a dire need for additional PFAS to be considered and taken care of by the Department of Environmental Protection.

The proposed bill actually suggests only the limitation for only 2 PFAS substances, however, Pennsylvania's water samples clearly show the presence of other harmful PFAS. At this time, The Department of Environmental Protection-DEP must rethink its proposals, by raising standards to a much higher level of coverage, to take care of many other deadly 'forever chemicals'. This plea is considered to be urgent, since the DEP and other research institutions have clearly shown just how deadly 'forever chemicals' are and could become to Pennsylvania.

Eleanor Veres-Skibo

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
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