



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2022 8:53 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; Troutman, Nick; Glendon King; Franzese, Evan B.; Eyster, Emily; IRRC
Cc: c-jflanagan@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:

Robert Wasilewski
(bobolink@ptd.net)
122 S Meade St
Wilkes Barre, PA 18702 US

Comments entered:

Dear Department of Environmental Protection Commissioners,

I am writing today to submit my comment for the record on the proposed amendments to Chapter 109 that will set maximum contaminant level goals and maximum contaminant levels for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). I am glad that the Department of Environmental Protection is establishing a long overdue maximum contaminant standard rule for PFAS specific to Pennsylvania. However, I urge the DEP to enact more stringent standards that provide equal protection for all Pennsylvanians' drinking water.

The maximum contaminant standards of 14 parts per trillion for PFOA and 18 parts per trillion for PFOS fall short of adequately protecting human health. A toxicological analysis by Cambridge Environmental Consulting recommended a standard of 1 part per trillion for PFOA and 5 parts per trillion for PFOS in order to protect young children. However, the proposed standards take into account only adult exposure.

The Board must take into account all Pennsylvanians, including young children as well as rural residents who do not get their water supplies from Public Water Systems. As written, these standards would exclude private water wells. Nearly 3.5 million people get their water from

water sources that are not connected to public systems. To ensure that private water users are not ingesting PFAS and to avoid burdening rural areas the cost of testing their own water for contaminants, the DEP needs to institute rigorous and regular testing for all PFOA and PFOS compounds in private and public water sources.

PFAS are called “forever chemicals,” because they remain in the water that they contaminate and can move through the fish and wildlife that absorb or ingest them. PFAS also have been found in the blood of individuals who have been exposed. PFAS can be highly toxic even at very low doses and have been linked to kidney cancer, thyroid disease, pregnancy-induced hypertension and preeclampsia, and testicular cancer. We must act now to protect our communities against these devastating outcomes.

I would like the protection of drinking water in Pennsylvania to be equitably distributed throughout private and public systems and for the standards to take into account the health of the most vulnerable Pennsylvanians. I urge you to upgrade the proposed standards to achieve such goals.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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