



## An Overview of the CTDEEP & CTDPH PFAS Task Force

Presented to:

**Environmental and Regulatory Challenges Association  
Energy and Environment Council**

Presented by:

**GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc.**

**August 16, 2019**



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GEOTECHNICAL ENVIRONMENTAL ECOLOGICAL WATER CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Interagency PFAS Task Force

## Evolution of PFAS Knowledge in CT

- 
- 2013-2015**
    - EPA-mandated testing of large public drinking water systems
  - 2016**
    - EPA Health Advisory and CT DPH Drinking Water Action Level
    - EPA testing at two Superfund sites
  - 2017**
    - Contamination in Westchester County, NY
  - 2018**
    - Testing & public outreach in Greenwich
    - Windham fire training area tested
    - DPH requires land use risk assessments by 80 PWS
    - DESPP and DEEP form committee to select alternative to AFFF
  - 2019**
    - DPH requires testing at proposed public wells
    - DEEP samples near MIRA landfills
    - AFFF release at Bradley Airport hangar
    - DESPP and DEEP issue AFFF Use Bulletin

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## Health Problems Posed by PFAS

- Health effects on multiple organs and phases of life
- Developmental effects to fetuses and infants
- Present in human blood worldwide
- Polluted drinking water supplies worldwide – now issue in US
- Ubiquitous discovery in the environment
- Replacement chemicals also a problem

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## Unique PFAS Management Challenges

### Public Drinking Water

- No Safe Drinking Water Act enforceable standards

### Health Standards

- Published research into health effects is moving faster than the government can act

### Remediation

- No EPA lab methods for PFAS testing in media other than drinking water
- Sampling is expensive and challenging (cross-contamination)
- Limited cleanup options

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## Why is a PFAS Task Force Needed?

- The Federal government (US EPA) has been slow to act in regulating PFAS.
- Collaboration and cooperation among Agencies is necessary to protect the health and welfare of Connecticut's residents and our environment.
- Information needs to be shared among Agencies and stakeholders.

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## Why is a PFAS Task Force Needed?

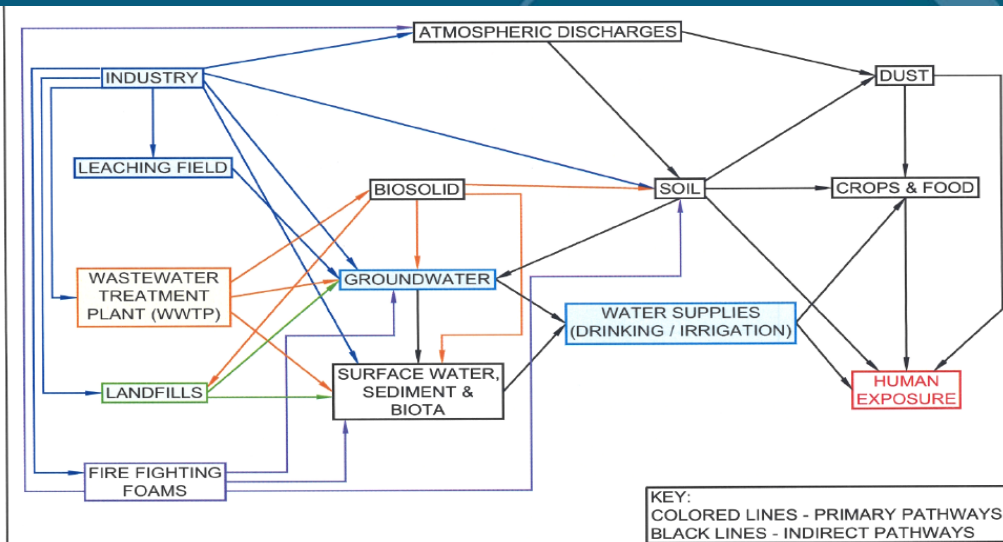


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## Exposure Routes



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## CT Agency Actions: DEEP

### Initial Identification of Possible Sites

- AFFF use – Airports, fire training areas
- Industry by SIC/NAICS codes
- Landfills

### Cleanup Criteria for Remediation Sites

- Soil and groundwater cleanup goals available for use

### Outreach and Coordination

- LEPs and regulated community
- Regional and national workgroups
- UConn
- DESPP

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## CT Agency Actions: DPH

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**Drinking Water Section**

**Public Health Laboratory**

**Environmental Health Section**

- Requires large public water systems to assess PFAS risk
- Requires testing of new public drinking water sources

- Assessing feasibility for PFAS testing

- Drinking Water Action Level for 5 PFAS
- Health messaging and fact sheets
- Outreach to private well owners and local health departments

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## PFAS Task Force Committees

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**Human Health**  
 Minimize human health risk for Connecticut residents

**Pollution Prevention**  
 Minimize future releases of PFAS to the environment

**Remediation**  
 Identify, assess, and clean up historic releases of PFAS to the environment

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## Pollution Prevention Committee

### Minimize future releases of PFAS to the environment

- Agency lead: **DEEP – Peter Zack**
- Date of first meeting: **August 14, 2019**
- Example topics to consider:
  - Determine universe of potential PFAS sources
  - Support for AFFF take-back program and initiatives to minimize AFFF use
  - Criteria for agricultural use of biosolids
  - Consideration of PFAS-free consumer product alternatives

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## Pollution Prevention Committee - August 14, 2019

### AFFF – Fire Fighting Foams

- Fire Marshall office has conducted survey on inventory (300 department/120 responses)
  - 27,000 gallons of AFFF concentrate (15,000 at hangers, 8,000 state trailers, 4,000 local)
- Discussion on Take-Back program
  - Cost is an issues and will be evaluating MADEEP program
- Fire Marshall meeting manufacture to evaluate alternative UL approved foams
- Discussed notification as when foams are used in order to evaluate how best to address release
- Discussed need to develop best management plans

### Education Outreach

- Identify areas with outreach/education may be required (Metal platers, car washes, WWTP)
  - Discussion on the process of WWTP which are not designed to treat other materials beyond sewage
  - Biosolids in CT are incinerated; however, may not reach temperature to fully destroy PFAS
    - No EPA methods for air compliance

### Consumer Product

- Discussion on how to deal with PFAS in consumer product
- Fluoro Council provided discussion on different forms of PFAS

### Legislation – need for potential bill regarding PFAS

### Communication – needs to be improved

- State to Municipalities then to residences also by POTW
- Reporting to DEEP spills not manned 24/7, whereas, DPH is



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## Action Plan Example

### Washington State – Interim Chemical Action Plan for Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances

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## Remediation Committee

### Identify, assess, and clean up historic releases of PFAS to the environment

- Agency lead: **DEEP – Raymond Frigon**
- Date of first meeting: **August 15, 2019**
- Example topics to consider:
  - Determine universe of potential PFAS sites
  - Statewide assessment of environmental media (i.e., surface water, groundwater, soil)
  - Consideration of cleanup standards
  - Methods for cleaning up contaminated water and soil

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## Human Health Committee

### Minimize human health risk for Connecticut residents

- Agency lead: **DPH Lori Mathieu – Brian Toel**
- Date of first meeting: **August 16, 2019**
- Example topics to consider:
  - Drinking water standards
  - Statewide testing of at-risk drinking water sources
  - Technical assistance to drinking water systems and private wells
  - Expanded fish and shellfish testing
  - Testing of agricultural products

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## Task Force & Committee Actions



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## Questions



**Thank You**

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