



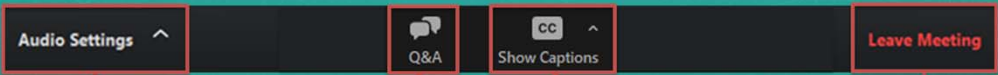
Water Environment Federation
the water quality people®

Linking Member Associations with Federal Policies and Local Trends

Thursday, August 22, 2024
1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

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How to Participate Today



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Today's Agenda

Today's Moderators: Julie Nahrgang & Jay Hoskins

- Introduction
- Biosolids Challenges in Maine
 - Scott Firmin, *Portland Water District*
- PFAS Challenges for Biosolids Recycling
 - Jimmy Slaughter, *Beveridge & Diamond*
- Federal & Regulatory Update
 - Steve Dye and Ashley Voskuhl, *WEF*
- Q&A Discussion




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**Portland
Water
District**
From Sebago Lake to Casco Bay


Biosolids Challenges in Maine

Scott Firmin
August 22, 2024



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2018 - PFAS Levels Established



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Ch. 418 – Beneficial Use of Solid Wastes revised to include PFAS levels

APPENDIX A


SCREENING LEVELS FOR BENEFICIAL USE
(mg/kg, dry weight)

146 **	375735	Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	1.9
147 **	1763231	Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)	0.0052
148 **	335671	Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	0.0025

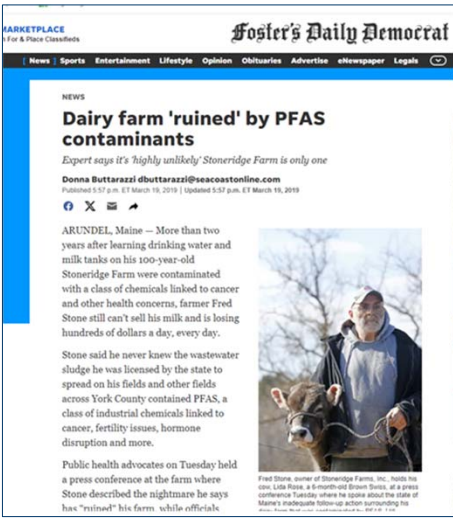
<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/06/chaps06.htm>

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PFAS Concerns



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From Sebago Lake to Casco Bay



<https://www.fosters.com/story/news/2019/03/19/dairy-farm-ruined-by-pfas-contaminants/5672929007/>

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Response to Concerns

- MEDEP suspends land application and compost distribution pending testing
 - Below Ch. 418 Levels – no change
 - Above Ch. 418 Levels – specific site or distribution approvals
 - Testing of active land application sites required
- Governor’s PFAS Task Force Created in 2020
- Biosolids management disruptions

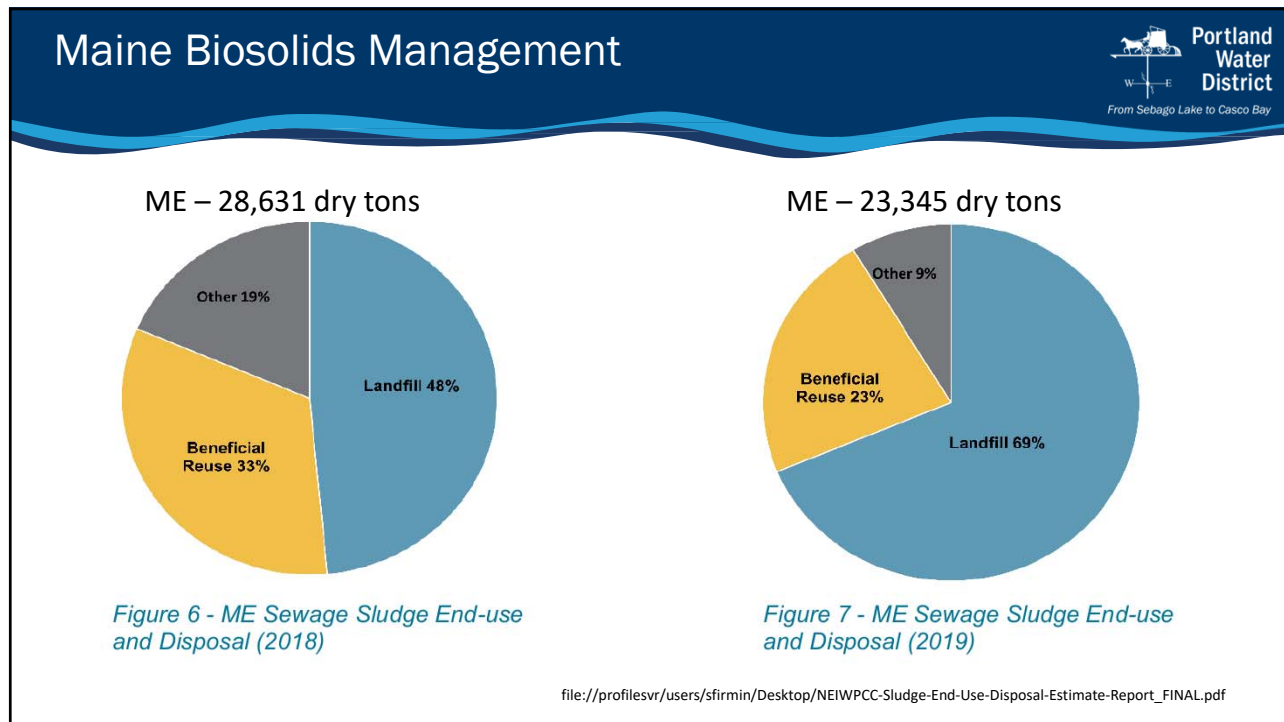
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Maine DEP Evaluating Sites

Tier I	Sites where 10,000 cubic yards or more of sludge was land applied, where homes are within 1/2 mile, and where PFAS is likely to be present in the sludge based on an evaluation of known sources or contributors of wastewater at a given treatment facility.	60 sites
Tier II	Sites where between 5,000 and 10,000 cubic yards of sludge were land applied, where homes are within 1/2 mile, and where PFAS is likely to be present in the sludge based on an evaluation of known sources or contributors of wastewater at a given treatment facility. In cases where homes are over 1/2 mile away, a site may be downgraded to Tier III depending on distance and other hydrogeological factors. Likewise, a site may be elevated to Tier I if results from a Tier II site with similar source contributions show a greater than anticipated impact to the soil and water being tested.	46 sites
Tier III	Sites where under 5,000 cubic yards of sludge were land applied, where homes are within 1/2 mile, and where PFAS is likely to be present in the sludge based on an evaluation of known sources or contributors of wastewater at a given treatment facility. Likewise, a site may be elevated to Tier I or II if results from a Tier III site with similar source contributions show a greater than anticipated impact to the soil and water being tested.	Estimated over 400 sites*
Tier IV	Sites where information gathered to date indicates that no sludge was land applied. Additional research and time will be needed to verify this information. Once identified, these sites may be placed in another Tier as appropriate using the above criteria.	Estimated over 500 sites*


<https://www.maine.gov/dep/spills/topics/pfas/maine-pfas.html>

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2022 - Maine LD 1911


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- Bans land application of biosolids & composting sales from biosolids in Maine*
- Requires wastewater treatment facilities to sample effluent for PFAS
- Prohibits new licenses to land-apply septage
- Requires DEP to report to Legislature on how to handle septage

**Certain exemptions to composting from food wastes and specific liquor making processes*

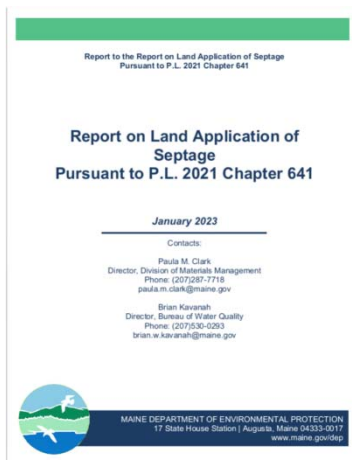
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2022 – Maine LD 1639

- Limited out-of-state bulky waste and Construction Demolition Debris into Maine
- Unintended Consequence: Landfill Operators did not have enough material to bulk the wet waste coming into the landfills
- Resulted in Landfills telling wastewater treatment facilities they may not have capacity to take biosolids, causing statewide concern

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MEDEP Report on Septage



Recommendations included:

- The Maine Legislature not enact a ban on the land spreading of septage in Maine prior to completion of the Department's investigation of soil and groundwater at septage land application sites pursuant to P.L. 2021 Chapter 478, and the above described feasibility study, and full consideration of their results.

<https://www.maine.gov/dep/publications/reports/index.html>

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2023 Crisis

Dramatic increase in biosolids to landfill and a dramatic reduction in bulky waste for mixing

- Reduction in biosolids outlets
- Feb/Mar – landfill stops acceptance of biosolids
- Biosolids diverted to Canada
- Increasing costs - \$70/wet ton surcharge

LD 718 – 2-year pause on LD 1639

Crisis building at Maine wastewater treatment plants
Wastewater treatment plant operators across Maine face paying higher fees to truck sludge to New Brunswick after two state laws curtailed how biosolid disposal is handled.

Crisis emerges in Maine over safe disposal of biosolids from wastewater treatment plants
Canella, the operator of the state-owned landfill that had stopped accepting biosolids from wastewater treatment, says it has found a temporary home for Maine's sludge in New Brunswick, buying time to find a long-term solution.

Landfill operator tells lawmakers it has temporary fix to Maine's sludge disposal crisis
Canella, the operator of the state-owned landfill that had stopped accepting biosolids from wastewater treatment, says it has found a temporary home for Maine's sludge in New Brunswick, buying time to find a long-term solution.

Maine lawmakers told that 'catastrophe' is averted, but sludge disposal challenges remain

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Biosolids Management Costs Increase

Bangor Biosolids Disposal Costs

Year	Cost
2021	\$447,200
2022	\$566,345
2023	\$798,871

LAWPCA Biosolids Disposal Costs

Year	Cost
2018	\$202,771
2022	\$679,000
2023	\$835,450

Sanford Sewerage District Biosolids Disposal Costs

Year	Cost
2021	\$73,859
2022	\$410,126

Greater Augusta Utility District Biosolids Disposal Costs

Year	Cost
2021	\$285,000
2022	\$443,250
2023	\$467,250

York Sewer District Biosolids Disposal Costs


Year	Cost
2021	\$142,336
2022	\$233,600
2023	\$300,000

Portland Water District Biosolids Disposal Costs

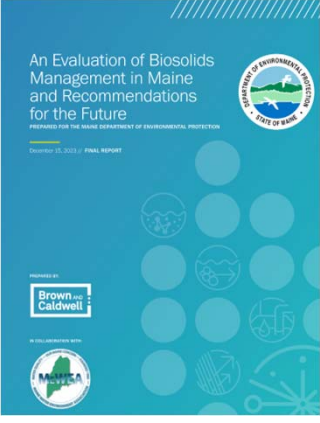
Year	Cost
2020	\$1,704,001
2021	\$2,275,185
2022	\$2,333,500

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Maine Biosolids Study



Portland Water District
From Sebago Lake to Casco Bay



An Evaluation of Biosolids Management in Maine and Recommendations for the Future
Prepared for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection
October 01, 2019 | FINAL REPORT

Prepared by: **Brown-Caldwell**


Summary of Study Recommendations

- Short-term
 - Secure landfill capacity
 - Ensure availability of bulking agents
 - Pilot PFAS technologies
- Medium-term
 - Support dewatering, dryer and digestion projects
 - Increase management options
- Long-term
 - Support PFAS technology installations if needed

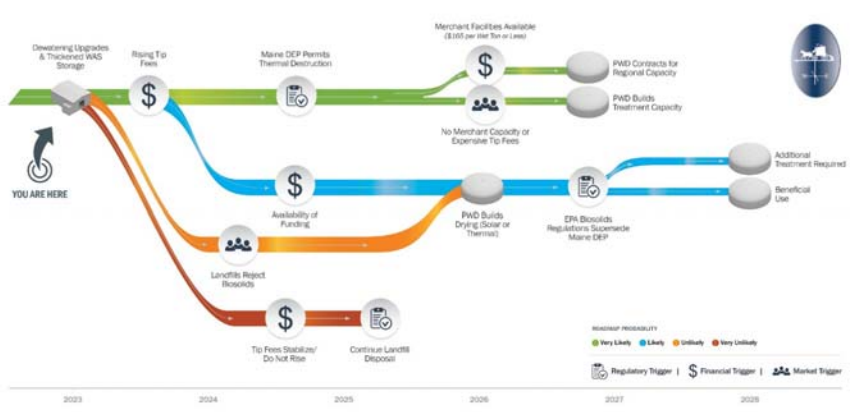
<https://www.maine.gov/dep/publications/reports/index.html>

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Portland Water District Master Plan




Portland Water District
From Sebago Lake to Casco Bay



<https://www.pwd.org/biosolids-management>

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 **Portland Water District**
From Sebago Lake to Casco Bay

Collaboration with MEDEP - Sampling in Portland, ME

Sampling Day	PFAS 6 - ng/L	TOP -	Site Type	
1	11		IPT Industry	Deicing treatment
1	257		IPT Industry	MSW Inc Landfill
1	11.3		IPT Industry	MSW Incinerator
1	1780		IPT Industry	Papermill Landfill
1	ND		IPT Industry	Metal finisher
1	135	432	Capture airport area	Airport drainage area
2	1.97		IPT Industry	Food production
2	9.22		IPT Industry	Food production (seafood)
2	12.1		IPT Industry	Dairy production
2	17.9		IPT Industry	Hospital
2	36.5		Capture TP area	Transportation facility
3	18.7		IPT Industry	Industrial Laundry
3	12.4		IPT Industry	Waste Treatment Facility
3	16.6		Capture breweries	Breweries
3	21.5	175	Dom/Com	Residential Neighborhood
3			Com/Indus	Dom/com manhole
3	21.4	76	POTW	Treatment Plant Influent

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 **Portland Water District**
From Sebago Lake to Casco Bay

Portland Press Herald

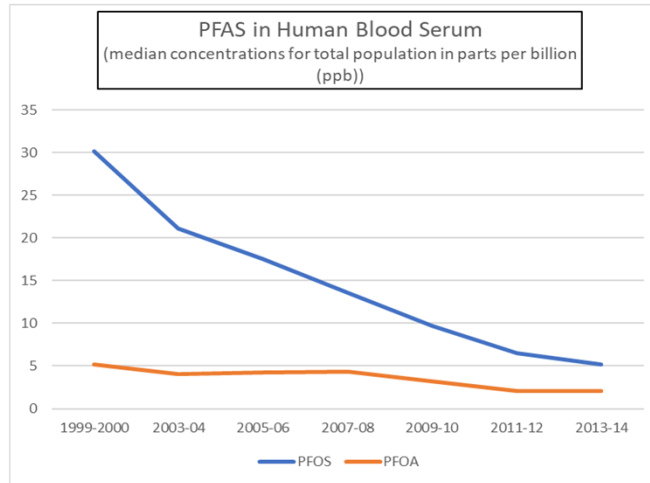
LOCAL & STATE > Posted **October 16** | Updated **October 16** INCREASE FONT SIZE ▾

Maine’s PFAS law draws objections from businesses around the world

Complex supply chains and inconsistent reporting requirements are making it hard for manufacturers to identify whether their products contain forever chemicals.

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PFAS will decrease as source reduction occurs



CDC-NHANES Data: Human Blood Serum (Total Population) for Selected PFAS
<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/pfas-blood-testing.html>

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Questions?



Thank you!

Scott Firmin
Portland Water District (ME)
sfirmin@pwd.org

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PFAS Challenges for Biosolids Recycling

WEF Government Affairs Meeting

Jimmy Slaughter
Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

August 22, 2024



This presentation and slides are not legal advice. Any legal decision depends on the facts and law applicable to your specific situation.

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Defending Biosolids

- Biosolids land application is in a strong position for legal and policy advocacy
- PFAS regulatory and litigation risks should be manageable
- Advocacy on PFAS, particularly regarding biosolids, is critical. PFAS risks are overblown.



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Context for PFAS Concerns: Tort Suits and Regulatory Actions

- CERCLA Hazardous Substances Designation
- Drinking Water Maximum Contaminant Level Designation
- EPA Risk Assessment for PFAS in Biosolids
- State Regulatory Actions
- Tort Suits against PFAS manufacturers with large verdicts and settlements

Concerns over PFAS in Biosolids

Biosolids have PFAS in ppb levels, higher than effluent

Groundwater/drinking water impacts feared

Some migration to groundwater in ppt level occurs in shallow groundwater scenarios, could migrate to wells


REGULATORY UPDATES




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Major Federal Initiatives on PFAS

- Hazardous substance designation under CERCLA (Superfund)
- Setting of Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for PFAS under Safe Drinking Water Act
- EPA risk assessment for PFAS in biosolids underway



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PFAS Designation as CERCLA Hazardous Substances

First addition of a hazardous substance under CERCLA using the law's procedures (usually added by reference in other laws)

EPA issued designation in April and a lawsuit was filed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on Monday, June 6.

EPA has issued notice of adding other PFAS compounds.

Legislative efforts underway to exempt passive receivers from CERCLA liability. EPA has pledged "enforcement discretion"



Defenses to CERCLA Liability for Biosolids

Legislative efforts to clearly carve out waster effluent, residuals, and biosolids from CERCLA liability are preferable to existing exemptions.

Existing exemptions for CERCLA liability should protect land application, but are insufficient.



Exemption to CERCLA liability for "fertilizer" and "useful product"



Exemption to CERCLA liability for permitted releases (NPDES permits and 503 regulations)



New Threat: State Designation of PFAS as a Hazardous Substance under State Cleanup Laws

Many states have their own version of CERCLA for site cleanups apart from the federal Superfund program

Some incorporate CERCLA exemptions for fertilizer and permitted discharges

Private party litigation to compel participation by land appliers/composters in PFAS-driven cleanups

Need advocacy to incorporate CERCLA exemptions in state laws, at a minimum

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PFAS Limits Under Federal Safe Drinking Water Act

In 2023, EPA proposed limits below the detection thresholds (~4ppt) for PFOA, PFOS, and four other compounds



Follows similarly low public health advisories issued by EPA in July 2022

The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) went final in April to much national media attention, lawsuit filed by AWWA/AMWA.

\$1 billion in new funding to implement PFAS testing and treatment

EPA alleging carcinogenicity of PFOA/PFOS based on sharply disputed evidence.

Many studies undercut EPA's work, arguing that the Agency failed to use multiple studies showing no health impacts from PFOA, PFOS, and other compounds

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114/comments>

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Other Federal Initiatives Bearing on PFAS

Effluent Limitations Guidelines – EPA issuing 308 requests under the Clean Water Act to collect data on industrial discharges of PFAS to POTWs, and biosolids sampling.

EPA has issued guidance on addressing PFAS in NPDES permits and recently settled a CWA enforcement action against Chemours.

EPA designating PFAS compounds as “hazardous constituents” under RCRA

Lower soil screening levels set for PFAS in 2022

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PFAS and the Current EPA Biosolids Risk Assessment

NACWA-led stakeholder engagement in 2023-24 expressed concerns over highly conservative assumptions used by EPA in development of risk assessment

EPA will publish draft risk-based values for PFAS in land applied biosolids this fall for comment, then start a risk management analysis

Risk based values will attract significant attention but 503 amendments are years away

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PFAS LITIGATION INVOLVING BIOSOLIDS



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Farmer v. Synagro (Johnson Co. TX)

Plaintiffs' allegations concern a routine land application in late 2022 – early 2023 near Grandview, TX

Claim that PFAS somehow migrated to Plaintiffs' land and harmed property, livestock, and human health

Class A EQ Fort Worth biosolids pellets

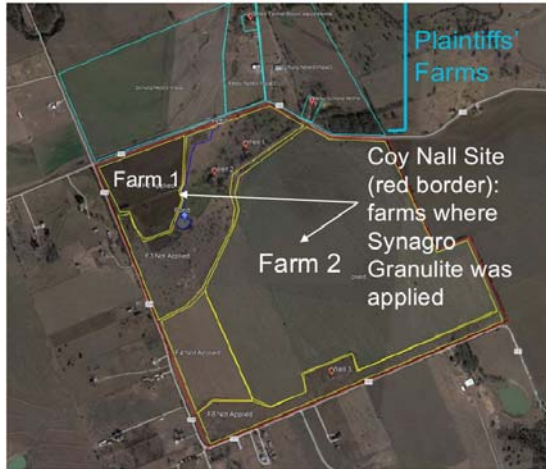


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Johnson County Farms – Routine Bulk Land Application



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Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) Citizen Suit

PEER filed a citizen suit lawsuit under the Clean Water Act against USPEA in federal court in DC alleging an unlawful failure to regulate PFAS in biosolids

PEER is seeking to short-circuit EPA's PFAS risk assessments for biosolids

If successful, the suit would seek to force EPA to start regulating 12 PFAS compounds under Part 503

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Coosa River Basin Initiative v. City of Calhoun & Moss Land Co.

Citizen suit filed in federal court in Georgia by advocacy group alleging that land application caused PFAS discharges in violation of the CWA, RCRA

Alleges that land application led to unpermitted discharges of PFAS that entered surface waters via runoff and groundwater; pretreatment

Parties proposed settlement that limits land application by Calhoun

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Mass Natural Fertilizer v. NEFCO et al. (Worcester Co. MA)

- Contribution claim for PFAS cleanup costs under Massachusetts Superfund law
- Former composting site with paper and industrial residuals, plus limited biosolids
- Drinking water wells downgradient of site
- Toxic tort suit in progress on adjacent property

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New England Challenges

- **Maine Biosolids Land Application Ban:** In effect for two years now. Significant pressures on landfills to manage biosolids volumes, exports of biosolids to Canada.
- **Vermont Places Stringent Limits on PFAS in Biosolids:** A de facto ban on land application
- **Connecticut Ban on Land Application:** Very little land application occurs in state
- **Massachusetts Legislature Considering Bill to Phase out Land Application** House Bill 4486 could be passed this summer; NACWA engaged in advocacy

PFAS SCIENCE AND OTHER LITIGATION; DEFENSE STRATEGIES

Toxicology: PFAS Not Shown to Cause Health Effects

Australia: "evidence for PFAS exposure and links to health effects is very weak"

Michigan: "causality between a PFAS chemical and a specific health outcome in humans has not been established"

C8 panel tempers 2012 conclusions regarding health effects



More Evidence on Lack of Health Effects

Health Canada (Dec. 2018): "the evidence does not support the carcinogenicity of PFOS."

U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) (2021): "The available human studies have identified some potential targets of toxicity; however, cause and effect relationships have not been established for any of the effects, and the effects have not been consistently found in all studies."

European Food Safety Agency (2020): Similar conclusions



Criticism of EPA's Analysis

"The human studies only weakly support, if at all, the designation of PFOA as a "likely carcinogen". Our recommendation [is] for reassessment of the [health advisory] for PFOS and PFOA, including reassessment of the human potential for cancer as well."
 (Perez 2023)

"EPA should participate in a multinational/scientific expert process to reach a consensus on realistic protective values for PFAS. EPA also needs to increase its transparency and carry out external peer reviews and cost-benefit analysis on all Health Advisories, not just on regulations, to ensure that resources are not being wasted on low-risk issues."
 (Cotrivo 2023)



Critical endpoints of PFOA and PFOS exposure for regulatory risk assessment in drinking water: Parameter choices impacting estimates of safe exposure levels

Angie Perez^{1,*}, Michael Lumpkin¹, Tiffany Kornberg, Allison Schmidt
Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health LLC, United States

ABSTRACT
 USEPA based drinking water toxic health advisories (SHA) for PFOA and PFOS. The Agency's choice for critical effect, toxic point-of-departure (POD), benchmark dose (BMD), pharmacokinetic (PK) model extrapolation to ingested dose, and use of uncertainty factors, resulted in the SHA for PFOA and PFOS being lowered from 70 ppt to 0.04-0.2 ppt. This review addresses key steps to the SHA derivation that influence changes in SHA values and suggests analyses and modeling changes for higher confidence in the SHA derivation, and re-evaluation of critical endpoint data for immunotoxicity and associated BMD modeling to derive a more sensitive POD in the chronic adverse cancer literature from reported PK modeling of ingested human dose to a guideline that supports biological realism and more accurately reflect PFA chronicity, which require non-linearly ingested dose. The uncertainty factor (UF) for human variability should be reconsidered, as in some and animal exposure used to derive the SHA represent the likely non-occupational population. Although not part of the SHA derivation, cancer was considered in the drinking water maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) technical evaluation. We discuss weaknesses in the cancer epidemiological data that require re-evaluation as the drinking water regulation process proceeds to a national standard.

1. Introduction
 As part of the USEPA Action Plan to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the environment, USEPA initiated the process to derive a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) for per-fluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in drinking water (USEPA, 2021a, b). On June 15, 2022, USEPA issued interim updated drinking water health advisories (SHA) for PFOA and PFOS that replace values previously issued in 2016 (USEPA, 2016a, 2016b). Several key steps in the development of the SHA for PFOA and PFOS significantly impact the ability to determine protective drinking water levels for each SHA while accurately reflecting clinical health risks to members of the public, including sensitive sub-populations. Key steps include, in part, identification of the most sensitive effect of exposure (hazard identification), identification of a study dose relatively close to the threshold of toxicity (dose-response assessment), and accounting for uncertainties in the underlying data to prevent sensitive sub-populations.

Data uncertainties introduced at each step of the SHA derivation process significantly affect the accuracy of the SHA drinking water values. Thus, the goal of this paper is to identify the SHA generation step needing re-evaluation to potentially reduce uncertainty in the final SHA drinking water limits for cancer and non-cancer outcomes.

2. Critical toxicity endpoints of PFOA and PFOS exposure for cancer outcomes
 In June 2022, following a Science Advisory Board (SAB) expert peer review, USEPA identified immunotoxicity as the most sensitive adverse health effect of chronic exposure to PFOA and PFOS and derived an SHA for PFOA (0.042 mg/L) and for PFOS (0.02 mg/L) (USEPA, 2022a). Children from the Faroe Islands were selected as a study population as this population was identified as at risk based on early childhood body burden of PFAS, and data are available for per- and post-natal exposure to PFAS (Chahar-Baguerian and Grandjean, 2018; Grandjean et al., 2012). An association between elevated PFOS or PFOA serum concentration

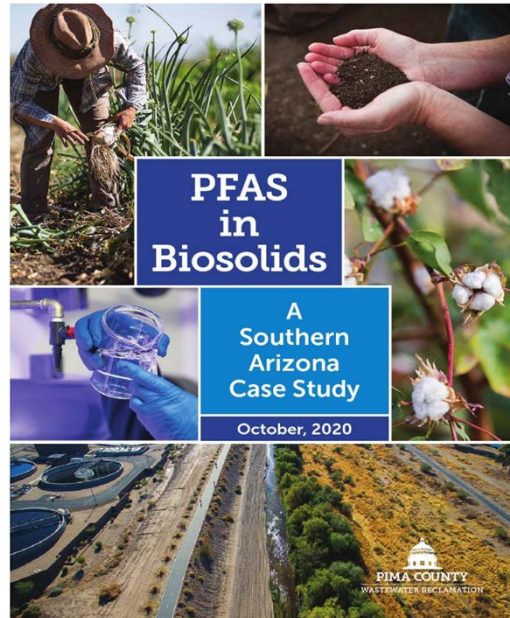
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 Available online 1 January 2023
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2020 Pima County, AZ Study Finds No PFAS Impacts From Land Application

"Most PFAS compounds analyzed for this study remained tightly adsorbed within the upper soil layers with little migration into the soil depths"

"Biosolids ... pose minimal risks to ground water contamination, accumulation in soils, or impacts to adjacent properties and neighbors"



Biosolids and Compost Should Not be Targeted

Best management practices and 503 rules already are protective of groundwater and drinking water

PFOA and PFOS are legacy chemicals, steadily declining in humans and wastewater

Huge benefits of recycling biosolids to soil dwarf speculative risks

Should agencies and contractors test for PFAS?

Testing mandates are being imposed rapidly

Data will help demonstrate the lack of exposure and risk

Hard data better than speculation

Firefighting Foam Lawsuits and Settlements

300 lawsuits filed since 2018

California sued 20 PFAs manufacturers in November 2022; 21 states total have sued seeking remediation costs, natural resources damages, etc. Case in progress.

Most lawsuits are focused on AFFF (fire fighting foam; high PFAS levels) and contamination of nearby drinking water.



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Thank You!



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Federal Update - WEF Government Affairs Department

Steve Dye, Sr. Director of Government Affairs (sdye@wef.org)

Ashley Voskuhl, Sr. Manager of Regulatory Affairs (avoskuhl@wef.org)

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National Water Policy Fly-In 2025

April 8, 2025 More details at
Washington, DC www.waterweek.us

Join hundreds of water professionals from around the nation in Washington, DC, to advocate before Congress and the Administration on the issues that are important to the water sector.

Co-hosted by WEF, NACWA, WaterReuse Association, the Water Research Foundation, and **AMWA!**



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Funded in Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (A.K.A. BIL)

Clean Water Guaranteed Funding: \$12.7B

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CW SRF)

- ✓ \$1.9B in FY22
- ✓ \$2.2B in FY23
- ✓ \$2.4B in FY24
- \$2.6B in FY25 & FY26

CW SRF Emerging Contaminants Grants (PFAS, Microplastics, 6PPD)

- \$1B FY22 – FY26
 - ✓ \$100M in FY22
 - ✓ \$225M in FY23
 - ✓ \$225M in FY24
 - \$225M in FY25

Needs Annual Appropriations

Potential Additional Funding: \$25B

CW SRF

- ✓ FY22 \$1.6B (-\$444M)
- ✓ FY23 \$1.6B (-\$863M)
- ✓ FY24 \$1.6B (-788M)
- FY25 & FY26 \$3.25

WIFIA

- ✓ FY22 \$63M
- ✓ FY23 \$68M
- ✓ FY24 \$64M
- \$5M for Stormwater Centers of Excellence
- \$280M for Sewer Overflow Grants (OSG) FY24
- \$6M for Water Workforce Development Grants
- \$25M for Tech. Assist. To Wastewater Treatment

Still Needs Initial Funding

- Resilience & Sustainability Grants
- Small POTW Grants
- Connecting to POTWs Grants
- Energy Efficiency Grants
- Stormwater Planning & Implementation Grants



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FY25 Appropriations Bills

Funding Categories	Clean Water	Drinking Water	Total	Percent
Senate Capitalization Grant	1,638,861,000	1,126,101,000	2,764,962,000	
House Earmarks	(553,936,004)	(479,541,446)	(1,033,477,450)	
Senate Earmarks	(362,500,000)	(242,391,000)	(604,891,000)	
Total Earmarks	(916,436,004)	(721,932,446)	(1,638,368,450)	59%
Available for SRFs*	722,424,996	404,168,554	1,126,593,550	41%
2024 SRF Funding	800,111,000	454,406,000	1,254,517,000	
Difference from 2024	(77,686,004)	(50,237,446)	(127,923,450)	

Additional Water Funding Programs

- WIFIA: \$72.3M (-\$7.7M)
- Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant (OSG): \$41M (-\$9M)
- Sec. 319: \$175.5M (-13.5M)
- Sec. 106: \$225.685M (-\$63M)
- Stormwater Centers of Excellence: \$3M (+\$1M)
- Tech. Assist. To Wastewater Treatment: \$27.5M (+\$2M)
- Water Workforce: \$5.4M



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Take the Pledge to Save the SRFs

Join the movement to urge Congress to fund the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs at congressionally authorized levels of \$3.25 billion each for federal fiscal year 2025.



www.SaveTheSRFs.org

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Other Legislation Update

Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act (WIPPES)

- H.R. 2964 passed House in June 2024
- S. 1350 bipartisan bill pending in Senate

Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act

- S. 1430, Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)
- H.R. 7944, Rep. John Curtis (R-UT) and Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA)

Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIWAP)

- S. 3830, Sen Alex Padilla
- H.R. 8032, Rep. Eric Sorensen (D-IL) and Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR)



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WEF Water Advocates Program

How YOU can help NOW!

1. Go to WEF Water Advocates website:
bit.ly/wef-water-advocates
2. Click the 4 call-to-action buttons:
 - FY25 Water Infrastructure Appropriations
 - PFAS CERCLA Liability Exemption for Water
 - Co-sponsor Wipes Labeling Legislation
 - LIHWAP
3. Fill out your info!
4. Share on social media!



Please click below to reach out to your Members today!

SUPPORT INCLUDING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING IN THE ECONOMIC RESILIENCE PACKAGE

Take Action Now

Support Water Infrastructure Funding in FY 2025

Write your Members to urge them to prioritize robust funding for water infrastructure funding programs in the fiscal year 2025 budget.

The Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Funds program (SRF) are important financing tools for wastewater, drinking water, and stormwater agencies to build and maintain the water infrastructure that protects public health, the environment, and promotes economic growth. The importance of safe and reliable drinking water and wastewater service during the Covid-19 crisis further highlights how critical it is for there to be robust funding to help communities address the challenges of aging water infrastructure. The Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs should be funded at levels that reflect the reality of our nation's water infrastructure crisis.

The EPA has estimated that \$50 billion is needed for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure over the next 20 years - and that doesn't include another estimated \$10 billion needed for stormwater infrastructure.

For FY22, it is necessary that the appropriate amounts for SRF programs be divided - at least \$2 billion for the CWSRF and \$3 billion for the DWSRF (the full authorized amount), a new eight-year plan, fund the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program at \$20 million for FY22, Congress covers the new loan and loan guarantee program in 2014, and in 2015 amended statutory language in the program to make it more useful to communities seeking low interest financing.

Our federal budget is under tremendous pressure and Congress is making difficult decisions about how to prioritize spending. Increased investment in water infrastructure will not only ensure that communities have clean and safe water, but studies have shown that there is tremendous support among the public for increased investments in water infrastructure, and these investments have a higher job creation return-on-investment rate than federal investments in military, transportation, healthcare and personal income tax cuts.

SUPPORT FUNDING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN FY 2025






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Federal Regulatory Update

Safe Drinking Water Act

- National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) to establish Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for six PFAS
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114
 - Effective Date: June 25, 2024

- NPDWR for Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0801
 - Expected to be finalized before October 16, 2024



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Federal Regulatory Update

CERCLA (SuperFund)

- Designation of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) as CERCLA Hazardous Substances
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OLEM-2019-0341
 - Effective Date: July 8, 2024

- Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Potential Future Designations of PFAS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OLEM-2022-0922
 - Comment period closed August 2023



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Federal Regulatory Update

Clean Water Act

- Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plans
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OLEM-2021-0585-0001
 - Effective Date: May 28, 2024

- PFAS Requirements in NPDES Permit Applications
 - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) expected in June 2025



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Federal Regulatory Update

Clean Water Act

- Draft Guidance for Future National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits for Combined Sewer Systems
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0475
 - Draft issued for public comment Feb.-Mar. 2024

- Maui Guidance: Applying the Supreme Court's County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund Decision in the Clean Water Act Section 402 NPDES Permit Program to Discharges through Groundwater
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0551
 - Draft issued for public comment Nov.-Dec. 2023



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Federal Regulatory Update

Clean Water Act

- Recommended Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criteria for PFOA and PFOS
 - Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0365 & EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0366
 - Expected in September 2024

- Human Health Water Quality Criteria for PFAS
 - Draft criteria expected in fall 2024



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Federal Regulatory Update

Clean Water Act

- Risk Assessment for PFOA and PFOS in Biosolids
 - Draft expected in Fall 2024, expected to be finalized in Spring 2025

- National POTW Influent Study
 - Collect existing data from 400 largest POTWs
 - 200-300 POTWs selected to monitor in 2025-2026
 - 10 Samples of IU effluent, domestic effluent, POTW influent, POTW effluent & biosolids



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Cybersecurity is a top priority

Free resources for water and wastewater systems:

- CISA: <https://cisa.gov/water>
 EPA: <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/epa-cybersecurity-water-sector>
 NIST: <https://www.nist.gov/cyberframework>



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