

Permitting of PFAS Compounds in NJPDES Discharges to Surface Water

A Public Hearing sponsored by the New Jersey Clean Water Council

Virtual Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2021, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (or close of testimony, if earlier)

PURPOSE OF THE HEARING

The New Jersey Clean Water Council is seeking public testimony on the future permitting of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in discharges to surface waters. The Department has promulgated standards for both drinking water and groundwater and has begun issuing discharge to groundwater water NJPDES permits with PFAS monitoring requirements. To further advance the Department's mission to protect our waters from PFAS, the Clean Water Council is soliciting public testimony focused on how to address the presence of PFAS in discharges to surface water (both direct and indirect) and the management of the application of biosolids that may also contain PFAS. Input from this hearing will help inform the Department's PFAS strategy to addressing discharges containing these pollutants.

SPEAKERS

- 2:00 Introduction of Issue: Anthony McCracken, CWC Chair
- 2:10 Keynote Speaker: Shawn LaTourette, NJDEP Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff
- 2:20 Presentation by USEPA
- 2:35 Presentation by State of Colorado
- 2:55 Public Testimony

REQUEST FOR TESTIMONY

The Council seeks recommendations regarding how best to control the discharge of PFAS to surface waters of the State. Testimony should consider:

- The Department is currently requiring sampling for specific dischargers. How should the Department expand and prioritize its efforts to establish monitoring requirements for other dischargers?
- Since publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) are designed only to treat sanitary waste, should there be a short period of time to focus on the identification and elimination of the source through a track-down method before compelling treatment at a POTW for wastewater facilities? If so, what period of time?
- If a track down approach is taken, what information should be collected to identify priority dischargers (e.g., specific agents industries may use in their process)?
- What specific technologies are potentially available to treat wastewater from large sanitary dischargers for PFAS removal? For these technologies, what is the effectiveness and cost, as well as what secondary impacts, such as residuals management and air emissions, resulting from their use?
- Until limits are established at the treatment plant, are there factors that should be considered in the management of generated sludge and the land application of biosolids?

HOW TO TESTIFY

The Council will provide 5 minutes per oral presentation and strongly encourages the submittal of detailed written comments by email or on paper, to augment your testimony. Written comments will be accepted until January 29, 2021 and can be sent via email to CWC@dep.nj.gov. If submitting electronically, the preferred format is Microsoft Word® 2003 or above (not Macintosh formats).

This public hearing will be conducted through a virtual format using Microsoft Teams. The Clean Water Council will post a link on its website (<https://www.nj.gov/dep/cleanwatercouncil/>) to the meeting prior to the hearing's start time. Please direct questions about the hearing to CWC@dep.nj.gov.

For more information, including submission of testimony, please contact Jennifer Feltis Cortese at Jennifer.Feltis@dep.nj.gov