



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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JUN 10 2016

ENERGY,  
INSTALLATIONS  
AND ENVIRONMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (INSTALLATIONS,  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (ENERGY,  
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(INSTALLATIONS, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY)  
DIRECTOR OF INSTALLATION SUPPORT, DEFENSE  
LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Testing DoD Drinking Water for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and  
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)

The Department is committed to providing safe drinking water to all men, women, and children served by a DoD water supply system. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a new lifetime health advisory (HA) of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOS and PFOA in drinking water on May 19, 2016. Even though EPA's new HA is guidance and not a mandate, DoD as concerned consumers will test our drinking water.

Therefore to provide a consistent implementation approach of this new EPA HA in DoD drinking water systems, the following actions are required:

- Test the finished drinking water for PFOS and PFOA at all installations where DoD is the water purveyor (including overseas).
- If the test result for individual or combined concentrations of PFOS and PFOA is greater than 70 ppt, follow the EPA HA recommended actions which include retesting, communication with state drinking water officials, proper notification to consumers, and evaluation of options to lower PFOS/PFOA concentrations, including the provision of alternative drinking water.

Where DoD is not the water purveyor, installations are encouraged to contact their water purveyor to determine their response to the new HA for PFOS and PFOA.

Request that each DoD Component begin to implement these actions immediately. The DoD Components may exercise reasonable discretion to go beyond these requirements. My point of contact for this matter is Ms. Maureen Sullivan, at 703-695-7957.

Peter Potochney  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Basing  
Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Energy, Installations, and Environment)