

ROY COOPER
Governor

MARY PENNY KELLEY
Secretary

RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR.
Director



PUBLIC MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ)
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

October 15, 2024

The Division of Water Resources (DWR) received a request on July 22, 2024 to develop interim maximum allowable concentrations (IMACs) in groundwater for eight per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). In accordance with 15A NCAC 02L .0202(c), the data supporting the request have been reviewed by DWR, and can be found at the DWR Groundwater IMAC [website](#). The request and supporting information were also sent to the DEQ Division of Waste Management and the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health's Occupational & Environmental Epidemiology Branch for review.

The intent to establish these IMACs was public noticed on September 4, 2024, with the opportunity for any interested party to submit a comment by October 4, 2024. Comments received can be found [online](#). DWR appreciates all comments received. The toxicological and epidemiological data, study results and calculations submitted with the request were in accordance with 15A NCAC 02L .0202. As 15A NCAC 02L .0202(d) states that the standard shall be the least of, and 15A NCAC 02L .0202(e) establishes the order of preference for references, no revisions to the proposed IMAC values included in the public notice are recommended as a result of the public comments received.

Please note that pursuant to 15A NCAC 02L .0202(c), the DWR Director will make a recommendation to the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) within 12 months of the date of this memorandum as to whether any of the below IMACs should be replaced by a new groundwater standard or expire. If the EMC initiates rulemaking on any or all of the below IMACs, a public hearing and comment period will take place and a formal record of proceedings with responses to all public comments will be prepared in accordance with Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes.

The Director has concluded that the establishment of these IMACs will not degrade the quality of the groundwaters, will not likely cause or contribute to pollution of the waters of the state, and will be protective of public health. **The following interim maximum allowable concentrations are hereby established for Class GA and GSA groundwaters effective October 15, 2024:**

<u>Substance</u>	<u>Acronym</u>	<u>CAS Number</u>	<u>Concentration (ng/L)</u>
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	PFOS	1763-23-1	0.7*
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	335-67-1	0.001*



<u>Substance</u>	<u>Acronym</u>	<u>CAS Number</u>	<u>Concentration (ng/L)</u>
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	HFPO-DA (GenX)	13252-13-6	10
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	PFBS	375-73-5	2,000
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	375-95-1	10
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	PFHxS	355-46-4	10
Perfluorobutanoic acid	PFBA	375-22-4	7,000
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	307-24-4	4,000

** The IMACs for PFOA and PFOS are below detection level or the Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL). A measurement at or above the current PQL of 4 ng/L for PFOA and PFOS as reported in EPA Test Method 1633 would constitute an exceedance of the IMAC for that chemical.*

This decision can be contested as provided in Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes by filing a Petition for a Contested Case Hearing (Petition) with the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) within sixty (60) calendar days. Requirements for filing a Petition are set forth in Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 26 of the North Carolina Administrative Code. Additional information regarding requirements for filing a Petition and Petition forms may be accessed at <http://www.ncoah.com/> or by calling the OAH Clerk's Office at (919) 431-3000.

One copy of the Petition must also be served to DEQ:

William F. Lane, General Counsel
 Department of Environmental Quality
 1601 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, NC 27699-1601

This letter completes the Division's review under 15A NCAC 02L .0202(c). For more information or questions, please contact Bridget Shelton at bridget.shelton@deq.nc.gov or 919-707-9022.

Richard E. Rogers, Jr.
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 Director, Division of Water Resources

10/15/2024
 Date

