



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

March 22, 2019

Dear MassDEP Drinking Water PFAS MCL Interested Parties,

I am writing to notify you that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is initiating the process to develop a drinking water standard for public drinking water systems, known as a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), for a group of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and to make you aware of the stakeholder engagement process that will precede the development of the proposed MCL. I am also providing you with some background on PFAS and MassDEP's related current and planned activities.

PFAS Background and MassDEP PFAS Activities:

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of chemicals used since the 1950s in certain types of firefighting foam and to manufacture a variety of products including stain-resistant, water-resistant, and non-stick materials. PFAS in drinking water is an important issue nationwide. PFAS from some firefighting foam and other releases can leach into groundwater or surface water and then contaminate drinking water. When ingested, some PFAS may cause developmental effects in fetuses during pregnancy and in breastfed infants, as well as other health impacts. MassDEP has already taken a number of steps to address this contaminant of emerging concern, and the agency is in the process of taking additional actions. As part of MassDEP's actions on PFAS, the agency is developing draft regulations under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan ("MCP", 310 CMR 40.0000) to establish reportable concentrations and cleanup standards for PFAS. Additional background on PFAS and information on MassDEP actions can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/pfas-petition-and-stakeholder-engagement>.

PFAS MCL Stakeholder Engagement:

As MassDEP moves forward with developing a new MCL regulation for PFAS, we will follow the Commonwealth's rule-making procedure, which includes a structured public comment process. The Department is also committed to soliciting stakeholder input ahead of and in addition to the public

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.
TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

Printed on Recycled Paper

comment period that accompanies all proposed regulations. As part of our commitment to engagement, MassDEP's Drinking Water Program (DWP) is convening a stakeholder group on certain aspects of the PFAS MCL development. About a dozen organizations have been invited to designate a representative for our core PFAS MCL stakeholder group. (See attached list of invited organizations.) This group will provide input to MassDEP in advance of any formal rule-making on areas including applicability; monitoring requirements; compliance calculations; reporting requirements; and best available technology.

These PFAS MCL stakeholder meetings will be open to the public. We are inviting you, and any other interested party, to attend these meetings. MassDEP will live-stream the stakeholder meetings to accommodate interested parties. At each meeting, in addition to input from the core stakeholder group, there will be an opportunity for input from other observers in the room. In addition, the MassDEP Drinking Water Program will accept any written comments from any party up to 10 days after each meeting submitted via email to program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject: PFAS MCL Group.

The first meeting of the MassDEP DWP PFAS MCL stakeholder group will be Thursday, April 11, 2019, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm in the MassDEP Office at 1 Winter Street, 2nd Floor, Boston MA 02108. As necessary, MassDEP will provide updated information on PFAS MCL development, including information on upcoming stakeholder meetings, to you via email and will post information for the stakeholder engagement process at <https://www.mass.gov/lists/pfas-petition-and-stakeholder-engagement>.

If you have any questions, please contact me at program.director-dwp@mass.gov, Subject: PFAS MCL Group. Thank you for your interest and engagement on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A.M. Yvette DePeiza". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey rectangular background.

A.M. Yvette DePeiza
Program Director
Drinking Water Program
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Attachment: PFAS MCL Invited Stakeholder Group List