



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3400 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3400

ENERGY, INSTALLATIONS,
AND ENVIRONMENT

7/11/23

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, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU (JOINT STAFF, J8)
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY (INSTALLATION
MANAGEMENT)

SUBJECT: Memorandum for Taking Interim Actions to Address Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl
Substances Migration from DoD Installations and National Guard Facilities

The Department of Defense (DoD) follows the federal cleanup law, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended, and long-standing Environmental Protection Agency regulations to evaluate all our military installations nationwide for potential releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants. This process includes identifying, investigating, and cleaning up releases caused by DoD activities and includes federal and state environmental regulator review and public participation. The CERCLA process has many steps that may take several years, sometimes decades, to complete.

In the interest of protecting human health and the environment, in support of the Secretary of Defense's commitment to taking care of Service members and their families, and in recognition of and commitment to the critical role defense communities play in national security, the Department is committed to addressing its PFAS releases as quickly as possible. In support of these goals, the DoD Components are directed to evaluate the data gathered during Preliminary Assessments/Site Inspections and Remedial Investigations and assess where an interim action can be taken to mitigate further PFAS plume migration or ongoing impacts to groundwater, surface water, and/or sediment, from an on-base PFAS source area. The DoD Components are further directed to prioritize implementation of interim actions as expeditiously as possible to address PFAS under CERCLA, such as removal of soil or sediment "hot spots" and installation of groundwater extraction systems, where supported by site-specific information.

If a DoD Component is not certain whether the site-specific information supports taking an interim action, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment (OASD(EI&E)) will assist in the final evaluation of information.

The point of contact for this matter is Ms. Alexandria Long, at 703-571-9061 or alexandria.d.long.civ@mail.mil.

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