

June 24, 2025

### **Corinth Surface Supply Improvements Project for PFAS Removal**

The City of Corinth will submit a Surface Water Supply improvements project for the City's drinking water system. The proposed project consists of a pilot study and treatment facility improvements for PFAS removal. The total estimated cost of the project is approximately \$3,125,000.00. Funding of the project will be provided through the Drinking Water Systems Improvements Revolving Loan Fund Program (DWSRF) administered by the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH).

On April 10, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) formally announced its final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS, including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, also known as Gen-X), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS).

EPA's limits (referred to as a Maximum Contaminant Level "MCL") for the two most common of these chemicals, PFOS and PFOA, are 4ppt or four parts per trillion. Although the EPA's new regulation provides a window of up to five years for public water systems to reach full compliance, the City of Corinth Public Utilities Commission took immediate action in exploring treatment methods and funding sources to remove these contaminants from the City's treated water supply. Water samples obtained from the Corinth Gas & Water Department's distribution system and raw water source exceeded the MCLs for PFOS and PFOA. The full test results are posted on the CGW website: [www.corinthgasandwater.com](http://www.corinthgasandwater.com).

The Surface Water Supply improvements project is designed to effectively reduce the PFAS levels in our water supply. The DWSRF project will explore implementing Granular Activated Carbon ("GAC") filter media to use in the water treatment and filtration process. GAC has been proven as an effective interim step in removing PFAS. Due to the unique chemical properties of PFAS, conventional water treatment plants are incapable of fully removing PFAS from drinking water.

In addition to seeking assistance through the DWSRF program, the Public Utilities Commission hired a legal firm with extensive experience in PFAS litigation to evaluate and, where necessary, litigate claims against those responsible for the PFAS chemicals in our water supply and hold them responsible for all associated expenses in removing PFAS from our water supply.

Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large and diverse group of chemicals used in many commercial applications due to their unique properties, such as resistance to high and low temperatures, resistance to degradation, and nonstick characteristics. Although PFAS have been manufactured and used broadly in commerce since the 1940s, concern over potential adverse effects on human health grew in the early 2000s with the detection of PFOA and PFOS in human blood. Since that time, hundreds of different PFAS have been found in water, soil, and air.

Many PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS, are environmentally persistent, bio-accumulative, and remain in human bodies for a long time. It is for this reason that PFAS are commonly referred to as “forever chemicals.” According to the EPA, exposure to PFAS over a long period of time may lead to negative health effects, including an increased risk of cancer. Most uses of PFOA and PFOS were voluntarily phased out by U.S. manufacturers in the mid-2000s, although these chemicals remain in the environment due to their persistence and lack of degradation.

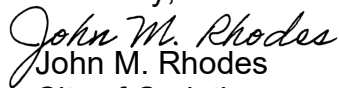
CGW will continue exploring state-of-the-art water treatment facility upgrades in coordination with our consultant partners to not only reduce PFAS to non-detectable levels and enhance our current treatment process but to position our facility to treat other possible substances in the future. Funding secured through litigation and the DWSRF program will be utilized for both temporary and long-term water treatment facility upgrades to test, monitor, and effectively treat our water supply to meet all current EPA drinking water standards.

For more information about how EPA is regulating PFAS in drinking water:

[Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\) | US EPA](#)

CGW will continue providing updates to our customers via website. CGW's commitment is to provide our customers with a safe water supply at the lowest cost possible.

Sincerely;

Handwritten signature of John M. Rhodes in cursive script.

John M. Rhodes

City of Corinth

Gas & Water Department