

CITY OF CORINTH
GAS & WATER DEPARTMENT

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RE: Follow-Up to Treated Water Supply from City of Corinth Gas & Water Department

EPA's First-Ever National Proposed PFAS Rule: On March 14, 2023, EPA announced the first-ever national PFAS standard. (<https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>). Currently no federal regulation or federally-enforceable standard exists for PFAS in the environment.

The new EPA proposal would establish a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS included perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX Chemicals), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS).

PFAS are human-made chemical substances that have been detected in water systems across the nation and are also present in many everyday products such as non-stick cookware, carpets, firefighting foams, and paint.

In CGW's previous statement concerning our treated water supply, CGW coordinated with an approved analytical laboratory service to conduct PFAS testing of water samples obtained from CGW's water distribution system and our raw water source. The Lab results were released to CGW on September 1, 2023. The Lab results were reviewed by the Mississippi State Department of Health.

The proposed maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PFOA is ≤ 4.0 ppt (parts per trillion gallons) and ≤ 4.0 ppt for PFOS. For the water sample obtained from CGW's distribution system (finished water), the lab results were 9.2 ppt for PFOA and 13 ppt for PFOS. For the water sample obtained at the raw water site, the lab results were 7.9 ppt for PFOA and 11 ppt for PFOS.

For the other four PFAS substances, the MCL is ≤ 1.0 as measured by the Hazard Index. The Hazard Index calculations for the finished water samples were 0.00 ppt for HFPO-DA, 0.04 ppt for PFNA, and .24 ppt for PFHxS. For the raw water sample, the calculations were 0.00 ppt for HFPO-DA, 0.036 ppt for PFNA, and 0.21 ppt for PFHxS. The index calculation is incomplete for PFBS due to the substance was not listed on the lab results for either the raw water or the finished water.

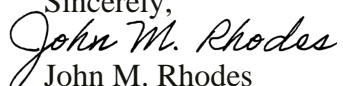
These proposed MCLs will be used for guidance until the final regulations are published. The EPA implemented the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) in 2023 requiring PFAS testing during 2023-2025 to review data and make rule revisions if needed.

Water samples from CGW's water system were tested for PFAS during EPA's Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3) that was implemented 2013-2015. During this time period, the UCMR 3 lab results indicated zero detection of PFAS in CGW's water system.

Although the EPA does not require any actions until the proposed PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) is finalized, CGW will be proactive by working closely with the Mississippi State Department of Health (MS DOH) and Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to make the necessary water treatment system upgrades to meet the EPA's new PFSA rules once they become regulation. CGW will continue performing additional water sampling, working closely with state authorities, and providing consumers with consistent, accurate information about water tests.

The City of Corinth Public Utilities Commission will take legal action against organizations that we know are the source of PFAS to help fund the costs associated with testing and treatment. In addition, CGW will actively seek federal grants through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to upgrade CGW's treatment facility to achieve no PFAS in our drinking water. Our goal is to secure funding for the technological solutions identified to protect our customers while also removing these contaminants from our water supply.

As a customer, you have the right to be informed of this matter and that CGW is taking immediate measures to mitigate any associated risks. Corinth Gas & Water Department appreciates the opportunity to serve our community. We value you as a customer, and our commitment is to provide you safe water supply at the lowest cost possible. CGW's lab results along with other information released by EPA concerning PFAS and Lead & Copper will be posted on CGW's website: www.corinthgasandwater.com

Sincerely,

John M. Rhodes
City of Corinth
Gas & Water Department