



Boyertown Landfill HSCA Site

Douglass Township
Montgomery County
Public Meeting and Hearing
June 21, 2023

Josh Shapiro, Governor

Richard Negrin, Acting Secretary

Agenda

- Site Background
- What are PFAS?
- PFAS Investigation
- Prompt Interim Response
- Next Steps
- Informal Question and Answer
- Formal Hearing

Site Background



Site Background

- Boyertown Landfill operated for decades before being closed in 1986.
- The Landfill owner was required to perform long-term and maintenance.
- Since 2000, DEP has performed actions to mitigate acute issues at the Landfill under Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act (HSCA).
 - Leachate Interceptor Trench, groundwater sampling.
- In 2019, DEP sampled for PFAS at the Site.

What are PFAS?

- Per – and polyfluoroalkyl substances
 - Found in:
 - Aqueous fire fighting foam
 - Manufacturing processes
 - Many consumer products
 - Water and resistant textiles
 - Food packaging
 - Emerging Contaminants
 - Science and regulations are evolving
 - Not historically sampled for in drinking water



PFAS Investigation

- Spring 2019 Sampling:
 - PFAS detected in leachate & surface water at the Landfill.
- Fall 2019 Sampling:
 - PFAS detected in residential wells surrounding the Landfill.
- Fall 2020 Sampling:
 - PFAS detected in groundwater at the Landfill.
 - PFAS detected in additional residential wells.
- May 2023 Sampling:
 - PFAS detected in additional residential wells.

PFAS Investigation

- Pennsylvania Drinking Water Standards:
 - Drinking water results collected in 2019 – 2020 were compared to 2016 Lifetime Health Advisory Levels established by USEPA.
 - In 2019, DEP began working on developing enforceable drinking water regulations for PFAS.
 - Known as Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)
 - In January 2023, DEP finalized MCLs:
 - perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) = 14 ppt
 - perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)= 18 ppt

PFAS Investigation



Prompt Interim Response

A Prompt Interim Response Action under HSCA is a:

- A response that DEP may take before the development of an Administrative Record.
- Based on a reasonable belief that prompt action is required to protect public health and safety or the environment.
- Public notice within 30 days of implementing the interim response.

Analysis of Alternatives

Goal: to alleviate the threat to public health posed by PFAS in residential wells:

- Alt. 1: No Action
- Alt. 2: Bottled Water Delivery
- Alt. 3: Installation of Point of Entry Treatment (POET) Systems

Evaluation Criteria

- Protection of human health and the environment
- Compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs)
- Feasibility
- Effectiveness
- Permanence
- Implementability
- Cost
- Community Acceptance

Proposed Response

Installation of POET Systems

- Protective, Effective, Compliant:
 - Ensures drinking water meets MCLs
- Easy and rapid implementation
- Cost effective

▶ Proposed Response Details

- Install POET Systems
- Provide bottled water until sampling results show POET systems are working;
- Perform maintenance of the POET systems, as necessary;
- Install additional POET systems, as necessary.

POET Systems



- Two carbon tanks
 - Sediment Filter
 - Water meter
 - Pressure gauge
 - Sampling ports

Next Steps

- Continued maintenance of POET systems.
- Additional drinking water sampling for PFAS.
- Installation of new POET systems for any additional wells that exceed the MCLs.
- Evaluation of a final response action for drinking water.

Informal Question and Answer

Your questions during this time are not
being recorded

Public Hearing

- Ground Rules:
 - Clearly state your first & last name before you begin. You will have **3 minutes** to provide testimony.
 - This hearing is designed to take public testimony. DEP will **not** respond to questions during the hearing.
 - Comments provided in writing will be given equal consideration to those provided orally.
 - DEP will review all public comments & prepare a written comment and response document that will be made public.



Bureau of Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields

Submit Written Comments to:

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**DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS:
August 11, 2023**