

News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

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NHDES Southern N.H. PFOA Investigation Update **Designated Properties in Amherst to Be Provided Bottled Water**

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced today that, as part of its investigation into perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), in southern New Hampshire drinking water, bottled water delivery will be temporarily expanded to include properties in Amherst served by private wells within a half-mile radius of 105 Route 101A, the former location of Textiles Coated International (TCI). NHDES made this decision to provide the bottled water to help protect the public's health based on the detection of some private drinking water wells within that area having concentrations greater than 70 parts per trillion (ppt) of PFOA and PFOS combined. Other wells have tested well below those concentrations. Repeat testing of wells within the area is being conducted to confirm results. Until the results are received and analyzed, people within the half-mile radius area will be provided bottled water as a precaution. No private drinking water wells outside the half-mile radius (near the Amherst investigation site) have tested near or above the 70 ppt standard.

There are 113 properties eligible for the delivery of bottled water and delivery has already begun. Additional supplies for eligible residents are available at the Amherst Police Station at 175 Amherst Street.

An updated map and table of the test results received to date has been posted on the NHDES website: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

The provision of bottled water serves as an interim measure while NHDES continues to investigate and determine the concentrations of contaminants actually present and the appropriate long-term remedy for addressing wells containing elevated levels of the PFCs in groundwater. The bottled water being provided to residents has tested "non-detect" (levels too low to detect) for all perfluorochemicals (PFCs), including PFOA and PFOS.

For more information on the investigation please refer to the NHDES PFOA investigation webpage: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>. The public is requested to direct their inquiries to the PFOA Public Inquiry Line at 603 271-9461. Members of the press are requested to direct their inquiries to Jim Martin, NHDES Public Information Officer, at 603 271-3710.

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