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EPA PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced proposed changes to the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS), and other PFAS compounds. EPA plans to update nationwide limits for these compounds, initially established on April 10, 2024, with notable adjustments. Below is a summary of important details regarding the proposed changes.

- Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for PFOS and PFOA will remain unchanged.
- EPA announced its intent to rescind and reconsider the MCL for PFHxS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA (GenX) established in April 2024, along with the hazard index mixture for these three compounds and PFBS.
- Public water systems were previously required to implement solutions that would reduce PFAS levels by 2029 if the legally enforceable mandatory testing/monitoring showed that drinking water levels exceeded the April 2024 MCL. This timeframe will be extended, with current proposals suggesting an additional two years (by 2031) for public water systems to achieve compliance. EPA plans to issue a proposed rule this fall, which will be implemented by spring 2026. Additionally, EPA plans to establish federal exemption framework regarding PFAS—details are currently unknown.
- A new outreach program, currently referred to as “PFAS OUT,” is proposed to help connect with every public water utility that needs to address known PFAS (PFOA and PFOS) via capital improvements within their systems. This program will be available in addition to the free EPA water technical assistance program ([WaterTA](#)), which provides services to water systems to improve public drinking water. These programs are primarily aimed at assisting rural and small communities.

This EPA update focuses on drinking water criteria. However, the unchanged MCL for PFOA and PFOS, along with the rescinding of MCL for other PFAS, will impact regulated entities beyond those that comply with drinking water standards.

At Langan, we are committed to staying current with PFAS regulatory changes to continue providing our clients with the highest level of service.

To discuss this matter and how it may impact your projects, please contact your Langan Project Manager or:



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