

Pretreatment Rules Update

PFAS

The EPA has initiated the **POTW Influent PFAS Study** to gather data on industrial PFAS discharges to POTWs. The first Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the Information Collection Request (ICR) was published in March 2024, second FRN published in October 2024. Primary purpose is to characterize the type and quantity of PFAS in IU discharges and to identify IUs to target for sampling.

Timeline has been pushed back. Questionnaire expected to go out January 2025 and sampling/analysis expected Spring/Summer 2025.

400 POTWs will be sent questionnaires and then ~250 POTWs will be selected for study. Draft copy of questionnaire for 400 POTWs on EPA website.

Only validated EPA Methods 1633 (40 analytes) and 1621 (adsorbable organic fluorine) may be used.

- POTW sampling will be broken into 4 groups, so labs are not overwhelmed.
- POTWs will be responsible for 100% of cost.

Once all results received, EPA will use a PFAS multimedia data portal web-based tool to display comparable datasets. The focus will be on IUs, not POTWs.

CERCLA exemption for water agencies likely in 2025.

Note, with timeline pushed back, sewer biosolids PFAS study now expected to begin in 2026.

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Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) Update

Reviews conducted and finalized for following Categories with no proposed new rules at present:

-Plastic Molding & Forming (40 CFR Part 463)

-Paint Formulating (40 CFR Part 446)

-Leather Tanning (40 CFR Part 425)

New studies being conducted for the following Categories:

Non-PFAS reviews for following Categories: **CAFOs** and **Oil & Gas Extraction**

PFAS Specific review for following Categories: **Textile Mills** and **Electrical & Electronic Components**

New ELGs finalized for following Categories:

-Steam Electric (specifically coal fired plants) - addresses more pollution control, published May 2024.

-Meat and Poultry Products - addresses nutrients, final action on Rule projected by August 2025.

-OCPSF (specifically PFAS Manufacturers) – addresses PFAS, rule expected to be published late 2024.

-Metal Finishing & Electroplating - addresses PFAS, rule expected to be published Spring 2026.

-Landfills – addresses PFAS, rulemaking initiated, but no other updates.

Upcoming Training Events

May Webinar – TBD

Survey resulted in potential topics:

- Wastewater pre-treatment systems and/or odor control technologies
- Sampling and measuring equipment and procedures
- Cannabis rules

October In-Person Workshop – TBD (Encina)

Potential topics:

- Inspector tools and technologies (software programs, safety equipment)