Report to the Rye Board of Selectmen on PFAS Exposure in Rye

From: Craig N. Musselman, P.E., BCEE

USEPA PFAS Meeting, Exeter, NH, June 25,26, 2018 - 1st of five such meetings nationally

Reported Contamination Events:

Pease/Portsmouth

Pease AFB firefighting foam

Hoosick Falls, NY

Chemfab (now St. Gobain)

Bennington, VT

Chemfab

Merrimack, NH

St. Gobain (Chemfab moved from Bennington, VT)

Newburgh, NY

Stewart AFB firefighting foam

Hyannis, MA

fire training operation/airport

Westfield, MA

ANG airfield firefighting foam

Others

Sources – firefighting foam, air deposition from manufacturing facilities, wastewater/leachfields, other

Blood levels routinely elevated above national averages in exposed populations.

Complicating factor for all: Epidemiologists are "unable to link exposure to outcomes" to date.

EPA Commitments:

Set a drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) to promote regulatory uniformity

Designate PFAS as a hazardous substance – in some fashion.

Develop groundwater cleanup recommendations for contaminated sites for PFOA and PFOS

Collaborate with other Federal and State agencies to develop toxicity values for "GenX and PFBS"

Complicated regulatory issue on all fronts.



Rye, NH PFAS Issues

Grove Road Landfill/Rye Water District Garland Well

Rye Beach/Jenness Beach Aquarion water supply

Breakfast Hill Landfill

Coakley Landfill

Surface water quality impacts

Easterly/Southeasterly groundwater flow component claim

No indication of impact to Rye drinking water sources from the Coakley site to date.

Recommendations for Town of Rye:

Confirm past use locations of Class B foam.

Consider disposing of stored Class B foam.

Evaluate firefighter gear

Encourage Rye Water District to actively monitor PFAS downgradient of Grove Road Landfill

Maintain transparency of all Rye PFAS data

Monitor Coakley Landfill activities

Rye has been actively engaged in the PFAS issue since 2017.

Health related exposure known to date in Rye is limited to relatively low levels in both public water supplies.

