



## DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20330-1000

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR AF/SG  
AF/A4

FROM: SAF/IE

SUBJECT: Testing Drinking Water for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and  
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)

This letter replaces the direction issued on the 17 Jun 16 letter with the same title. The Air Force (AF) is committed to protecting human health by ensuring Airmen at all installations receive safe drinking water. The EPA has recently issued a lifetime health advisory (HA) for PFOS and PFOA. In response to this new EPA HA, the OASD issued the attached memorandum, *Testing DoD Drinking Water for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)*. I am directing AF/SG and AF/A4 to issue implementation guidance for the following:

For installations in and outside the United States:

- Where the AF is the water purveyor, test the finished drinking water for PFOS and PFOA if sampling has not already been completed. If the test results exceed the EPA's lifetime HA, follow the EPA recommended actions which include:
  - Retesting
  - Communication with state/regulatory agency/local drinking water officials
  - Proper notification to consumers
  - Evaluation of options to reduce PFOS/PFOA concentrations below the lifetime HA
- Where the AF is not the water purveyor, assess the water purveyor's response to EPA's lifetime HA for PFOS/PFOA. Test the finished drinking water for PFOS and PFOA if sampling has not already been completed. If the test results exceed the EPA's lifetime HA, follow the EPA recommended actions which include:
  - Retesting
  - Communication with state/regulatory agency/local drinking water officials
  - Proper notification to consumers
  - Evaluation of options to reduce PFOS/PFOA concentrations below the lifetime HA

These actions shall be completed by 31 Jan 17. An interim progress report on these actions is due to SAF/IEE by 15 Sep 2016. Please direct any questions to Col Joseph Costantino at 571-256-4397 or joseph.costantino.mil@mail.mil.

I will also be signing out policy on *Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) of Concern* within the next few weeks that will provide additional guidance on this issue.

MIRANDA A. A. BALLENTINE  
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force  
(Installations, Environment, and Energy)

Attachment:

ASD(EI&E) Memo, *Testing DoD Drinking Water for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanic Acid (PFOA)*, 10 June 2016

cc:

AFIMSC/CC

AFCEC/CL

NGB/SG/A4

AFRC/SG/A4