

## **PRINCETON PFAS UPDATE – WINTER 2024**

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# **CURRENT PROJECT STATUS**

- Phase II Report submitted in November 2023
  - Extent of impacts in all media: Soil, Groundwater and Surface Water
  - Risk Assessment
- Phase III/IV report due November 2024
- IRA regular monitoring of wells and POETs
- Runoff Treatment below 30 Mtn. Rd. in operation



## PHASE II COMPREHENSIVE SITE ASSESSMENT

- <u>Soil Sampling</u> Summer 2023 soil sampling completed at 18, 19, 21 and 22 Mountain Road
- EPA sampling conducted at 30 Mountain Road
  - No direct exposure risk from detected levels in soil
  - EPA determined they will not conduct soil removal
  - Only one sample above the "direct contact" standard and EPA Removal Management Level (RML)
     Sample EPA SS-07 had 490 ppb PFOS
  - Remainder of results consistent with our prior results



### **SOIL SAMPLING MAP**



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## PHASE II COMPREHENSIVE SITE ASSESSMENT

- <u>Surface water sampling</u> completed at four locations in downgradient streams in July 2023
  - PFAS6 ranged from 5 to 66 ppt (SW-1)
  - SW-4 most downstream sample collected, PFAS6 = 26 ppt
  - Confirmed that between SW-4 and Wachusett Reservoir there is significant distance (>5.5 miles) and numerous downstream wetlands, ponds and streams adding flow
- Surface water sampling will be performed annually (July) to monitor surface water concentrations over time
- Planning to add one additional point (SW-5) along
  Hubbardston Road upstream of SW-1 and Schoolhouse Pond



## SURFACE WATER SAMPLING MAP



## PHASE II COMPREHENSIVE SITE ASSESSMENT

Results of most recent drinking water well sampling

Two new locations inside existing radii with PFAS detections -16 Prospect Street and 13 Radford Road

- These do not expand radii to new properties (i.e., outer radii perimeter did not change with this round)
- No additional POET carbon breakthroughs detected
- 36 Merriam Road remains to be sampled (last of the locations downgradient of 57 Merriam Road)



## **PHASE II - RISK CHARACTERIZATION**

- Data for soil and groundwater evaluated using DEP's Method 1 Risk Characterization Standards
  - <u>Groundwater</u> risk is associated with drinking water, and is being addressed with POETs and bottled water
  - <u>Soil</u> "Exposure Point Concentration" (data averages) are below the "direct contact" standard
- Surface water Stage I Environmental Screening
  - No Significant Risk of Harm to site biota and habitats



## **JANUARY 2024 RADIUS MAP**



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## 2019 TO 2023 PFAS6 CONCENTRATION TRENDS AT 10 PROPERTIES IN CENTRAL "SOURCE AREA"



#### 2019 TO 2023 PFAS6 CONCENTRATION TRENDS AT 8 OTHER PROPERTIES DOWNGRADIENT OF "SOURCE AREA"



### **RUNOFF TREATMENT SYSTEM – 30 MOUNTAIN RD**

- System began operating on September 11, 2023
  - Through 1/4/24, treated 70,349 gallons
  - Treated water is infiltrating subsurface near sidewalk
  - Carbon drums were ordered 10/13/23 based on detection in mid-point sample from 10/6/23
  - Results of effluent sample on 10/21/23 (flow meter at 39,805) received on 11/13/23 showed 5.1 ppt PFOS
  - New carbon drums were installed on 1/4/24
  - Carbon drums rated for 10 gpm; flow rate during rain events will be used to determine whether additional drums are necessary
  - Municipal Light Dept. ran power to shed to provide heat so system can remain in service during coldest weather



## **CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL**

- Data Indicate Different PFAS in Two Areas
  - <u>Southern area</u> = AFFF in May 2017 at 30 Mountain Rd
    - Runoff of AFFF foam onto adjacent properties
    - Testing indicated Town Hall campus not a source
  - Northern area = different PFAS at 54, 58, 64 Mnt. Rd.
    - Unconfirmed news report of 1967 fire at 54 Mnt. Rd.
    - Soil sampling at 54 Mountain Rd. showed low PFAS concentrations



## **PIE CHART MAP**



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# **PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS**

- Continue IRA monitoring of well water and POETs
- Phase III Remedial Evaluation/Phase IV Remedy Implementation Plan reports due in November 2024
  - Evaluation based on criteria in 310 CMR 40.0860
  - No current remedial method is feasible
  - Developments in remedial options are being tracked
- Semi-annual IRA status report due in March 2024
- Next IRA public information session in April 2024



## PHASE III REMEDIAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

### • 310 CMR 40.0860 – Feasibility Evaluations

- 40.0860(5): Remedial alternative is considered feasible <u>unless</u>: (a) the alternative is not technologically feasible, according to 40.0860(6), or (b) the costs are not justified by the benefits, considering factors such as long term O&M, etc., according to 40.0860(7).
- 40.0860(6): Remedial alternative is considered technologically feasible <u>unless</u> (a) existing technologically cannot remediate the impacts to the extent necessary to achieve No Significant Risk.
- 40.0860(7): The benefits of implementing a remedial alternative to achieve a permanent or temporary solution shall justify the cost <u>unless</u>: (a) the incremental cost of conducting the alternative is substantial and disproportionate to the incremental benefit of risk reduction, environmental restoration, and monetary and nonpecuniary values



## **NEW USEPA DRINKING WATER STANDARDS**

- USEPA expected "soon" to establish drinking water standards of 4 ppt for both PFOA and PFOS
- MassDEP will adopt this will require addition of second vessel to single-vessel POETs where PFOA or PFOS exceed 4 ppt (regardless of PFAS6 concentration)
- Eighteen current locations with POETs would require addition of second vessel once the standard is in effect
- Select Board will be evaluating and discussing the costs to add a second vessel to, and to monitor, these POETs



