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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Tina Fan, Chair, DWQI Testing Subcommittee  
Anthony Matarazzo, Chair, DWQI Treatment Subcommittee

FROM: Jessie Gleason, Chair, DWQI Health Effects Subcommittee

Cc: *Members of the Health Effects Subcommittee:*  
Perry Cohn  
Keith Cooper (DWQI Chair)  
Judith Klotz  
Gloria Post

DATE: December 13, 2022

SUBJECT: Health Effects Subcommittee review of interim USEPA Health Advisories for PFOA and PFOS

On June 21, 2022, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Commissioner Shawn LaTourette requested that the New Jersey Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI) review the scientific basis of the interim United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Health Advisories for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) issued by USEPA on June 15, 2022. The interim USEPA Health Advisories are health-based drinking water concentrations that do not consider analytical and treatment limitations, and they are below the current New Jersey Practical Quantitation Levels (PQLs) for PFOA and PFOS. Specifically, the DWQI was asked to determine whether the current scientific information supports health-based drinking water levels for PFOA and PFOS below the current PQLs.

The Subcommittee emphasizes that the current Health-based MCLs of 14 ng/L for PFOA and 13 ng/L for PFOS recommended by the DWQI in 2017 and 2018, respectively, were determined to be scientifically supportable and public health protective when they were developed based on the scientific information available at that time.

After review of the interim USEPA Health Advisories, newer scientific studies, and other relevant information, the Subcommittee has concluded that Health-based MCLs below the current NJ PQLs of 4 ng/L for PFOA and 6 ng/L for PFOS are scientifically supportable. This memorandum transmits this conclusion to the Testing and Treatment Subcommittees so that they can begin their reevaluation of PQLs and treatment removal capabilities for PFOA and PFOS. The accompanying report dated December 2, 2022 provides the scientific basis for the Subcommittee's conclusion.