

The NYSDOH acknowledged that it sampled 22 water wells in April 2018 around PFAS hot spots identified by the Department of Defense in its 2017 study of sites at the former Seneca Army Depot. DOH said in November that no samples exceeded the EPA health advisory limit of 70 parts per trillion.

QUESTION 1: Since then, the state set a health advisory level of 20 ppt. Did all 22 of the wells sampled fall under that new state limit (as well as the 70 ppt federal limit)? If not, how many and which ones exceeded the new state limit?

QUESTION 2: What steps, if any, is the DOH taking to map potential plumes of PFAS substances emanating from the PFAS hot spots identified in the 2017 DOD study?

QUESTION 3: What notifications and specific recommendations has the DOH provided residents with private water wells near the DOD-identified PFAS hot spots at the former Seneca Army Depot?

QUESTION 4: Has the DOH tested deer, fish, cattle or crops near the former Seneca Army Depot sites that were found to have high levels of PFAS substances?

QUESTION 5: Has the DOH responded to the March 1 letter from Seneca Lake Guardian that requests that the agency take further action to map PFAS plumes at the former Seneca Army Depot? Does it plan to respond?

QUESTION 6: The Seneca Lake Guardian letter states that DOH tests of two private wells on a dairy farm south and west of the DOD-identified hot spots showed PFAS at 40 parts per trillion. Is that accurate? Further comment?

QUESTION 7: The State Drinking Water Council has recommended a health advisory limit for PFAS of 20 parts per trillion. What steps, if any, need to occur before the DOH has the authority to enforce cleanup action when legally valid tests of water samples show that the state advisory limit of 20 ppt has been exceeded?

QUESTION 8: Which public water systems in New York State that serve at least 10,000 have been tested for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination?

QUESTION 9: Which public water systems in New York State that serve less than 10,000 residents have been tested for PFAS contamination?

QUESTION 10: In the summer of 2017, the NYSDEC conducted a statewide survey of sites likely to have stored or used PFAS substances, including airports and fire training sites. Has the NYSDOH had any role in notifying the public or local officials near those sites that their drinking water (public or private) might be compromised and might need testing?