Information Regarding Drinking Water Health Advisory Level Exceedance for PFOA/PFOS

Lyerly Utilities

June 2022

On June 15, 2022, EPA issued interim updated drinking water health advisories for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) that replaces the health advisories issued by EPA in 2016. The updated advisory levels, which are based on new science and consider lifetime exposure, indicate that some negative health effects may occur with concentrations of PFOA or PFOS in water that are near zero. These interim health advisories will remain in place until EPA establishes a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation. PFOA/PFOS has been detected in Lyerly’s water supply but has only been found in one sample. We will continue to sample monthly for 12 months to see if this was anomaly or if it is actually in the water supply.

PFOA & PFOS were widely used to make carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food and other materials that are resistant to water, grease or stains. They were also used for firefighting at airfields and in a number of industrial processes. Many of these uses were phased out by U.S. manufacturers in the mid‐2000s but some uses remain. Most people have been exposed to these chemicals through consumer products but drinking water can be an additional source of exposure in communities where these chemicals have contaminated water supplies. While these health advisories are not enforceable limits, Lyerly Utilities is actively working towards long and short term treatment solutions to reduce or remove these chemicals from our drinking water. Lyerly Utilities is providing this information so that our customers can make informed choices regarding the health and safety for themselves and their families. Customers that have concerns about the current levels of PFOA & PFOS found in their drinking water should consider actions that may reduce exposure. More information regarding steps you can take to reduce your risk can be found on the EPA website at: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/meaningful‐and‐achievable‐steps‐you‐can‐take‐reduce‐your‐risk>

Additional information regarding PFOA & PFOS and the current EPA health advisory is available at the following links:

EPA’s Drinking Water Health Advisories

<https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/drinking‐water‐health‐advisories‐pfoa‐and‐pfos>

EPA’s Health Advisories Q&A

https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/questions‐and‐answers‐drinking‐water‐health‐advisories‐pfoa‐pfos‐genx‐chemicals‐and‐ pfbs

Ga EPD PFOA & PFOS Story Map with Recorded Levels by Location <https://gaepd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=e8f2c6a51c1c41088002350f1eabe598>

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