

Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs)



Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) [also known as perfluorinated compounds (PFCs)] are a group of compounds formulated to improve the resistance to stains, grease, and water in a wide variety of commercial and industrial products. Common uses for PFCs include aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), nonstick cookware, food packaging, waterproof clothing, fabric stain protectors, lubricants, cleaners, wire insulation, paper, and paints.

The widespread use of these materials has created the public perception that these materials were safe. With information on these materials emerging, regulators, consumers, and the regulated community are now understanding that these emerging contaminants are very persistent in the environment, do not readily degrade, and have been found to be bioaccumulative. In fact, on May 25, 2016 the USEPA lowered the health advisory limits for drinking water for a subset of PFCs, including perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) to 70 parts per trillion (ppt).

Both the Department of Defense (DOD) and private industry have recently come under increased scrutiny to evaluate potential sources and unintended releases of PFAS/PFCs to the environment with a recent focus on PFOS and PFOAs.

BB&E's wide ranging experience with PFAS/PFCs enables us to assist our clients through the complex regulatory and technical environment surrounding these ubiquitous and persistent compounds. Great care must be exercised in the evaluation and determination of Potential Release Locations (PRLs) for PFAS/PFCs as there are multiple potential sources of PFAS/PFCs including a wide array of commercial and industrial products and associated potential breakdown products (or precursors).

BB&E has prepared multiple PFC Preliminary Assessments (PAs) across the country effectively identifying in excess of 600 PRLs for follow-on investigations. Site investigation phases for PFAS/PFCs evaluation require detailed Work Plans and Field Sampling Plans that account for the myriad of potential cross contamination products that can be encountered and influence laboratory results so accurate and precise evaluation of potential PFAS/PFCs is paramount. Following sampling and identification of PFAS/PFC impacts, comprehensive remedial management strategies will be required due to the current technical challenges in the remediation of PFAS/PFCs from the environment. DOD, Industrial, and municipal facilities with identified PFAS/PFCs impacts to potable water supplies will require the expertise of firms such as BB&E to help navigate and implement the requisite drinking water remediation technologies.

BB&E's extensive PFAS/PFC experience enables us to mobilize a qualified team of support professionals on a moment's notice to provide expert support at locations across the globe, bringing together unparalleled levels of expertise to deliver solutions to our clients' emerging contaminant needs.



Services Provided:

- ✓ Preliminary Assessments
- ✓ Environmental Assessments
- ✓ Records Searches
- ✓ GIS Mapping
- ✓ Site Investigations
- ✓ Water Well Surveys
- ✓ Work Plan Development
- ✓ Regulatory Support
- ✓ Remedial Strategy

For additional information or to speak to someone regarding BB&E's environmental capabilities, please contact Mr. Aaron Etnyre at 248.489.9636 x303, or email aetnyre@bbande.com

