



## **NAVAL BASE KITSAP PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Navy to conduct second round of water testing around NBK-Bangor** *Virtual open house public meetings scheduled to run from Sept. 28 to Oct. 28*

BANGOR, Wash. - The U.S. Navy will host a virtual open house meeting to inform the public of results from the first round of testing conducted earlier in the year and to answer questions about upcoming efforts to sample additional drinking water wells near the installation for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS.

The Navy is proactively seeking to test drinking water wells in designated locations for two specific PFAS chemicals, known as Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS).

These chemicals are key components in Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF), which the Department of the Defense historically has used as a firefighting agent for real-world incidents and training scenarios.

The Navy would like to sample private wells to determine if PFAS-containing substances used at Naval Base Kitsap Bangor could have migrated through groundwater into off-base drinking water wells at levels greater than U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's health advisory levels.

In May 2016, the EPA announced a lifetime health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for both PFOS and/or PFOA.

Although these health advisory levels are not enforceable regulatory standards, the Navy is voluntarily seeking to identify private wells that may contain levels of PFOS and/or PFOA greater than the lifetime health advisory due to Navy activities. The best way to detect an exceedance is to sample the drinking water directly.

The Navy has sampled Bangor's on-base drinking water and the results did not indicate levels of PFOS or PFOA beyond the health advisory level.

The Navy tested nearly 300 wells, surrounding NBK-Bangor, during the first round of testing earlier in the year. There were two exceedances about the EPA LHA of 70ppt.

Testing will now be expanded to the surrounding areas adjacent to the exceedances to determine if further measures should be taken.

The Navy has mailed a letter and information packets to residents to provide further information about testing and to request authorization to sample their water. Testing will be available to the public within the sampling area at no cost.

The Navy will hold virtual public meetings to discuss the results of the first round of testing, gain additional permission to test more wells and for the public to ask questions concerning all of the above. The virtual meetings will be available to view from Sept. 28 to Oct 28. Frequently asked questions submitted through Oct. 9, within the virtual open house, will have answers posted during the week of Sept. 28.

- Results Virtual Public Meeting: Sept. 28 to Oct. 28
- Frequently asked questions answered: Oct. 21 to Oct. 28

People may attend anytime within the three week window. Representatives from partner agencies, including the EPA, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Health, and Kitsap Public Health District will provide presentations and answer frequently asked questions.

Across the country, the Navy is committed to working with our local communities on this important issue and keeping the public informed.

PFAS chemicals have been used nationwide since the 1950s in products that resist heat, stains, grease and water. They have been used in a variety of products and substances such as non-stick cookware, food packaging such as microwaveable popcorn bags, and water-resistant textiles and sprays used to treat carpets and fabrics.

To participate in the virtual public meetings, please go to [www.NavyBangorPFAS.com](http://www.NavyBangorPFAS.com).

For media queries, please contact NBK Public Affairs at 360-627-4046 or [pao.nbk.cnrnw@navy.mil](mailto:pao.nbk.cnrnw@navy.mil).

For drinking water well sampling inquiries, please contact Naval Facilities Engineering Command Public Affairs at 360-396-6387 or [james.k.johnson3@navy.mil](mailto:james.k.johnson3@navy.mil).

For more information on PFAS at local Naval Installations please visit: <https://www.navfac.navy.mil/NWPFAS>.