

**OPERATIONS & WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE**  
**SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 6, 2026**  
**4:15 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE** 

Directors: Paul Sethy (Chair), James Gunther

Staff: Ed Stevenson, Dan Stevenson, Jackie McCloud, Mike Wickham, Robert Marsheck,  
Cris Pena, Jody Clarke

Public: None

*This meeting was conducted in person at the District's Headquarters and virtually by Zoom Webinar and Teleconference, and members of the public were invited to participate. Materials presented to the Committee were posted in advance of the meeting at [www.acwd.org](http://www.acwd.org) and copies of materials as presented are attached to these minutes.*

**DISCUSSION TOPIC**

1. Public Comments: No public comments were received.
2. Specialized Utility Truck Bodies: Jody Clarke, General Facilities Supervisor, provided a presentation on the types of utility truck bodies utilized by District field crews. Mr. Clarke provided background on the utility trucks used by Distribution Maintenance Division (DMD) and Facility Maintenance Division (FMD) field crews, including the Board's approval in May 2025 for purchase of five heavy duty utility trucks. Mr. Clarke provided specific information on the different body types required for the two work groups and noted the different maintenance and emergency response requirements for these two groups. Mr. Clarke provided information on the relatively standard body employed for the FMD utility truck compared with the specialized utility body required to support DMD crew activities. Mr. Clarke noted that an amendment is required to the May 2025 truck order for the two specialized utility bodies for the DMD crew trucks. Mr. Clarke provided information on the cost of this amendment and noted that this will be an item on the agenda at the January Board meeting.

Staff received comments and responded to questions from the Committee.

3. PFAS Updates: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Division of Drinking Water (DDW), San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB): Cris Pena, Engineering Supervisor, provided a summary of regulatory updates for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from several agencies. In May 2025, the U.S. EPA announced that the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) established in April 2024 for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) would be kept, and that it intends to rescind the MCLs for Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS), Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS), Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), GenX Chemical, and the Hazard Index. In October 2025, DDW issued new and/or revised Notification or Response Levels for PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, and Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA). Ms. Pena shared that DDW has also issued monitoring orders which contain revised PFAS reporting levels for annual

Consumer Confidence Reports and require California water agencies to perform initial PFAS monitoring of groundwater and surface waters in 2026 to comply with the established U.S. EPA PFAS MCLs, regardless of the EPA's intention of rescinding and delaying parts of the PFAS Rule. In December 2025, the RWQCB adopted a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater. Ms. Pena explained that the new NPDES permit applies to the concentrate discharges from the Newark Desalination Facility, becomes effective July 1, 2026, and includes a requirement to sample the NDF influent for PFAS at least once by 2027.

Staff received comments and responded to questions from the Committee.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Topics discussed by the Committee were informational only, and no recommendations were being made.

## ***SPECIALIZED UTILITY TRUCK BODIES***

Jody Clarke

General Facilities Supervisor



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## Background

- DMD and FMD field crews require trucks equipped for specialized tasks.
- Support safe and efficient maintenance and emergency work.
- Board approved purchase of five heavy-duty utility trucks (May 8, 2025).



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# FMD Utility Truck

- Standard utility body and compartments
- 8,000 lbs. hydraulic crane



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# DMD Utility Truck

- Custom utility body with specialized compartments
- 3,000 lbs. hydraulic crane
- PTO driven air compressor for pneumatic tools
- Tailgate with tool storage, dewatering pump, and worksurface
- Enhanced worksite safety lighting



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# Next Steps

- Agenda item for January 2026 Board meeting
- Amendment for specialized utility body packages for two DMD crew trucks
- Approximately \$223,591



# Questions?



# Alameda County Water District

## **PFAS Updates: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency California Division of Drinking Water San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Cris Pena, Engineering Supervisor

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## PFAS Updates

- ❖ US Environmental Protection Agency Maximum Contaminants Levels established in 2024
- ❖ California Division of Drinking Water Notification Levels for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
- ❖ California Division of Drinking Water Monitoring Orders
- ❖ General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Adopted



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# Definitions

- ❖ PFAS: Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, a large group of widely used, long lasting chemicals which break down very slowly over time and may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals.
- ❖ MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level, a legally enforceable standard established by the Environmental Protection Agency, which is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- ❖ NL: Notification Level, health-based advisory levels established by the California Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for chemicals in drinking water that lack MCLs
- ❖ RL: Response Level, advisory level at which DDW recommends removing a source from service or installing treatment.
- ❖ µg/L: parts per billion
- ❖ ng/L: parts per trillion



## US Environmental Protection Agency Maximum Contaminant Level

❖ Final Rule effective on June 25, 2024

Chemical	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Contaminant level (MCL)
PFOA Perfluorooctanoic acid	0 ng/L	4.0 ng/L
PFOS Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	0 ng/L	4.0 ng/L
PFHxS Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid	10 ng/L	10 ng/L
HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals) hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	10 ng/L	10 ng/L
PFNA Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	10 ng/L	10 ng/L
Mixture of two or more: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	Hazard Index of 1 (unitless)	Hazard Index of 1 (unitless)

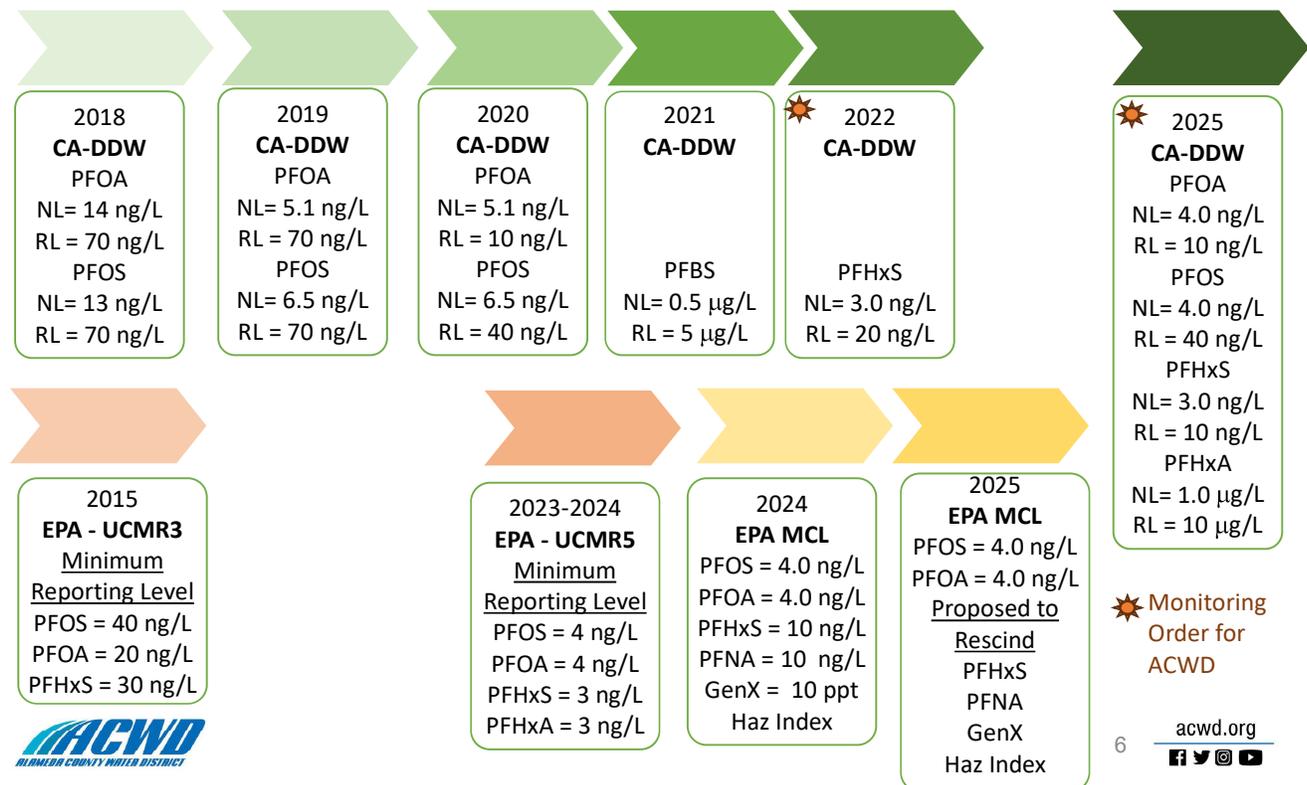


# CA – Division of Drinking Water Revised Notification Levels

Chemical	Notification Level	Response Level	Issuance
PFOA Perfluorooctanoic acid	4.0 ng/L	10 ng/L	<b>10/29/2025</b> 02/06/2020 08/23/2019 07/13/2018
PFOS Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	4.0 ng/L	40 ng/L	<b>10/29/2025</b> 07/13/2018 02/06/2020 08/23/2019
PFHxS Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid	3.0 ng/L	10 ng/L	<b>10/29/2025</b> 10/31/2022
PFHxA Perfluorohexanoic Acid	1.0 µg/L	10 µg/L	10/29/2025
PFBS Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	0.5 µg/L	5 µg/L	03/05/2021



## PFAS Regulatory Timeline



# US EPA PFAS MCL Update

- ❖ May 14, 2025
  - ❖ Keep MCLs for PFOA and PFOS
  - ❖ EPA plans to provide additional time for compliance, including proposal to extend compliance date from 2029 to 2031
  - ❖ Intends to rescind MCLs for PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (commonly known as GenX), and the Hazard Index
  - ❖ Plans to issue a proposed rule Fall 2025 and finalize in Spring 2026



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## Division of Drinking Water Monitoring Orders

December 18, 2025 -DDW issues Monitoring Order DW 2025-0002-DDW

- ❖ Purpose to comply with EPA initial PFAS MCLs monitoring requirement
- ❖ Initial monitoring for ground and surface waters under the monitoring orders must be completed by end of 2026
- ❖ PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and a mixture of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS
- ❖ Lowered Consumer Confidence Report Detection Levels (CCRDL)
- ❖ Sample groundwater and surface water quarterly
- ❖ Grandfathering of data collected after 2019 allowed



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# General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater

## NPDES Permit for General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater was adopted December 10, 2025

- ❖ Order effective 7/1/2026
- ❖ Monitor for PFAS at least once by the end of 2027
- ❖ Develop and maintain a contingency plan describing procedures to ensure the facility remains in, or is rapidly returned to, operation in the event of equipment failure or emergency
- ❖ Develop and maintain a Spill Prevention Plan
- ❖ ACWD facilities remain identified within the permit as examples of Class 1 and Class 2 dischargers
- ❖ Order expires 6/30/2031



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## Impacts to ACWD

- **Blending Facility (w/6 MGD PFAS Treatment)**
  - EPA PFOS limiting: ~24-27 mgd
- **Desal Facility**
  - CA PFHxS limiting: ~18% Blend-around
  - EPA PFOS limiting: ~ 35% Blend-around
- **Additional PFAS monitoring**
- **Update Operational Plans**
- **Update NDF key reliability features for PFAS**
- **Future revisions to Blending Facility and NDF permit amendments**



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# Questions?



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