Collaborative Problem Solving: Emerging Contaminants Case Studies

PA DEP Perspective

June 3, 2019

Tom Wolf, Governor
Patrick McDonnell, Executive Secretary
• Environmental Challenge Emerging Contaminants PFAS
• How Did PA Lab Become Involved
• Collaboration Efforts
• Results of Collaboration
• Outcomes to Date June 2019
• Questions
• Emerging Contaminant PFAS
• May 2016 EPA Lifetime Health Advisory Limit (HAL) 70 ppt guidance, no MCL
• Unregulated compound
• PFAS found in PA PWS
• Private Wells
• Ground Water Contamination
• Voluntary Monitoring
• Concern for Air, Biosolids, Sediments, Soil, Clinical
HOW DID THE LAB BECOME INVOLVED

• Governor Wolf Mandates PFAS Action Team through Executive Order
• Multiagency Team Lead by DEP
• Lab Director Became Engaged with Team
• Provided Information about Resources Needed for Testing, Funding & Staff
• Advocated for Public Lab to have Capability, Timeliness, Analysis Prioritized
• Technical Knowledge Benefits Accreditation Program
Collaboration Efforts

- Public Water Systems
- PA Department of Environmental Protection
- PA Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
- PA Department of Health
- CDC, ATSDR, ASTHO PEATT Pilot Project
- PA Commercial Accredited Laboratories
- PA PFAS Action Team
Results and Successes of Working Together

• Knowledge Transfer through APHL Conference Discussions, Webinars, Environmental Laboratory Science Committee, EPA and TNI Forums
• Biomonitoring Drinking Water and Clinical Studies
• Toxicology Information
• Investigations for Further Monitoring
• Laboratory Testing (Public and Private) Implementation
• PFAS Action Team Conducted Public Meetings
February 2019 PA DEP Lab Through Emergency Justification Procures LC/MS/MS and Approved for One FTE

March 2019 PA DEP Lab Installs Instrument and Begins Training for Instrument, Method, Sampling

April 2019 Lab Performs DOC and MDLs

May 2019 PA DEP Applies for Accreditation to PA and NJ NELAP

PA BSDW Begins 1 YR Sampling Plan
QUESTIONS?

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