



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

EMAIL ONLY

January 17, 2019

Darlene McWhirter, Town Administrator
Town of Tamworth
84 Main Street
Tamworth, NH 03886

Subject: **Tamworth** – Tamworth Town Landfill, Durrell Road
DES Site #198704017, Project #135

2018 PFAS Sample Results, prepared by HEB Engineers, Inc.,
dated January 10, 2019

Dear Ms. McWhirter:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) has reviewed the above-referenced Data Transmittal for the Closed Tamworth Landfill, as recently submitted by HEB Engineers, Inc. (HEB). The submittal included laboratory results for the groundwater samples collected from three monitoring wells (MW-1A, MW-2A, and MW-4) that were analyzed for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), as previously required by NHDES. Each of these samples were analyzed for nine individual PFAS recommended by NHDES, including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), for which Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards (AGQS) have been established. Specifically, the AGQS of 70 nanograms per liter (ng/L) applies to the concentrations of PFOA and PFOS individually, or as a sum of the two concentrations combined (e.g., "PFOA+PFOS").

Based on our review of the information provided, NHDES prepared this letter to provide our review comments and additional information requirements outlined below.

NHDES understands that the results of the initial PFAS screening detected multiple PFAS in the samples from monitoring wells MW-2A and MW-4. Relative to the applicable AGQS, the groundwater sample from MW-4 contained individual and combined concentrations of PFOA and PFOS exceeding AGQS. Specifically, the concentrations of PFOA and PFOS in the MW-4 (western down gradient overburden well) sample were 337 ng/L and 121 ng/L, respectively (PFOA+PFOS = 458 ng/L). PFOA and PFOS levels in the MW-2A sample did not exceed AGQS, and PFAS were not detected at MW-1A.

Based on the exceedances of the AGQS relative to PFAS, NHDES requires your consultant to prepare and submit an updated receptor survey, meeting the requirements of Env-Or 606.07(d). As the nature and extent of PFAS contamination at the Site is not fully understood at this time, NHDES is concerned about the potential risk to any nearby water supply wells (which appear to exist in the site vicinity). Please submit the updated receptor survey to NHDES within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Once this information is provided, NHDES will work with you to identify next steps including a confirmatory (second) groundwater sampling round for PFAS, and developing a schedule to address any additional requirements relative to the AGQS exceedances at the site. **Please note that any water supply wells identified within 500 feet of the Site via the receptor survey shall be sampled for PFAS on an expedited basis to assess whether nearby drinking water sources have been impacted by Site-related contaminants.**

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Finally, please note that the laboratory data report included with the above-referenced HEB submittal indicates the data results were finalized and provided to HEB on November 19, 2018; yet the Data Transmittal was not submitted to NHDES until January 10, 2019 (following NHDES' inquiry to HEB on January 2, 2019). In light of the above-noted AGQS exceedances and the apparent local reliance on groundwater as a source of drinking water supply, NHDES will expect that future sampling results will be provided in a more timely fashion.

NHDES appreciates the Town's on-going efforts to maintain compliance with the requirements of the Groundwater Management Permit, and your immediate attention to the additional PFAS-related requirements as detailed herein. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at NHDES' Waste Management Division.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jarred P. Swiontek".

Jarred P. Swiontek, P.G.
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Jay J. Poulin, P.E., HEB Engineers, Inc.
Attention Health Officer, Town of Tamworth