

The PFAS Problem





NON-STICK COOKWARE



FAST FOOD PACKAGING

PFAS are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances strongly resistant to degradation. Because of their wide use and the fact that they degrade slowly, PFAS are found almost everywhere in the environment and some have been linked to health problems in humans and animals. For that reason, the EPA is exploring classifying some of them as hazardous substances.



PESTICIDES







STAIN RESISTANT PRODUCT

PFAS Exposure Pathways





The problem

- Thousands of compounds in the family—PFOA, PFOS most common
- Thousands of uses under the sun Food containers, non-stick cookware, fabric softener, fire fighting products

The current situation

- Increased awareness
- **Contaminated groundwater from multiple sources**—Examples are manufacturing PFAS, manufacturing products containing PFAS, fire fighting training, and landfill leachate.
- Multiple exposure pathways Inhalation, ingestion, skin absorption
- Some have been linked to potential detrimental health effects
- Currently not regulated by the EPA nationally—States are passing their own drinking water standards.
- EPA is proposing listing certain PFAS as hazardous substances This change potentially affects remediation sites.

Management options

• Because they are not regulated as hazardous waste, PFAS can be injected into deep wells, placed in solid waste landfills, and hazardous waste landfills or combusted at a waste to energy plant, cement kiln, or hazardous waste incinerator.



Veolia options

- Veolia can design water systems for municipalities and industries that include various filter media to capture PFAS.
- Veolia offers disposal options for media contaminated with PFAS using high temperature incineration.

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