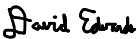




Gavin Newsom, Governor  
Yana Garcia, Secretary for Environmental Protection  
David Edwards, Ph.D., Acting Director

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Darrin Polhemus  
Deputy Director, Division of Drinking Water  
State Water Resources Control Board

**FROM:** David Edwards, Ph.D.   
Acting Director David Edwards (Sep 18, 2024 14:10 PDT)

**DATE:** September 18, 2024

**SUBJECT:** NOTIFICATION LEVEL RECOMMENDATION FOR  
PERFLUOROHEXANOIC ACID (PFHxA) IN DRINKING WATER

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The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is recommending that the State Water Resources Control Board establish the notification level (NL) for perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) at a drinking water concentration of 1 part per billion, equivalent to 1 microgram per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ).

The attached technical support document reflects OEHHA's review of the human and animal toxicity studies identified from the open literature. There were insufficient data from animal studies on PFHxA to evaluate its potential carcinogenicity. OEHHA did not identify any human studies that could be used for the basis for development of the NL recommendation.

From OEHHA's review of the scientific literature, multiple peer-reviewed studies in rodents supported thyroid, liver, nasal cavity, and developmental toxicity as the most sensitive effects for the derivation of the NL recommendation for PFHxA. The NL recommendation is based on decreased thyroid hormone levels in male rats in the peer-reviewed study by the National Toxicology Program (NTP, 2019),<sup>1</sup> and nasal cavity toxicity in female rats in the peer-reviewed study by Loveless et al. (2009).<sup>2</sup>

OEHHA will also post on its website the technical support document for this recommendation. Links to access the critical studies can be found in the references section of the document as well as in the footnotes of this memorandum.

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<sup>1</sup> NTP (2019): [https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/sites/default/files/ntp/htdocs/st\\_rpts/tox097\\_508.pdf](https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/sites/default/files/ntp/htdocs/st_rpts/tox097_508.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Loveless et al. (2009): <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0300483X09003680>

Mr. Darrin Polhemus  
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cc: Kannan Krishnan, Ph.D.  
Assistant Deputy Director of Scientific Affairs  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Elaine Khan, Ph.D.  
Chief, Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Christopher Banks, Ph.D.  
Chief, Water Toxicology Section  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment