# Governor Snyder's Directive Creates the PFAS Action Response Team

Taking Action, Protecting Michigan

# Governor Snyder and the State of Michigan are taking action to address this issue in a proactive and innovative way.

Ten state departments, in coordination with local and federal officials across Michigan, are working together to ensure that the public health and safety of residents is protected while ensuring our environmental heritage is secure for generations of Michiganders to come.

## MPART — Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination...

- Executive Directive 2017-4, establishes the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART).
- The directive is designed to ensure a comprehensive, cohesive and timely response to the continued mitigation of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) across Michigan.
- ➤ The team is tasked with enhancing cooperation and coordination among local, state and federal agencies charged with identifying, communicating and addressing the potential effects of PFAS in Michigan and protecting public health.

## Carol Isaacs – MPART Chief Executive

The team is led by retired Michigan Chief Deputy Attorney General Carol Isaacs, who has been authorized by the governor to ensure timely action is taken on all environmental, public health and public information fronts.

- Extensive experience within state government and previously served in both Michigan's legislative and executive branches.
- > She is an attorney with a strong health care background.

## **Dr. David Savitz –**Nationally Recognized PFAS Advisor

- ➤Dr. David Savitz of Brown University's School of Public Health will serve as the team's academic consultant. Savitz is a professor of epidemiology and has served in several positions within academic and professional societies, boards and committees.
- ➤ He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including his most recent in 2011 the National Cancer Institute's Distinguished Lecturer Award in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology.

### MPART Advisory Boards

#### ➤ Local Health Department Advisory Committee:

• The Local Public Health Advisory Committee to the Michigan Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Action Response Team (MPART) serves to coordinate and exchange information between state and local public health leadership on matters pertaining to statewide response to PFAS contamination sites in Michigan.

#### >The Michigan PFAS Health Research Advisory Board:

 The Michigan PFAS Health Research Advisory Board will review all pertinent and recent scientific research associated with appropriate PFAS chemical levels in drinking water.

### Coordinated Action and Response

- > The PFAS team includes representatives from:
  - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
  - Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
  - Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
  - Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
  - Michigan Department of Natural Resources
  - Michigan Departments of State Police
  - Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget
  - Michigan Department of Treasury
  - Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
  - Michigan Department of Education
- ➤ It also will coordinate with the National Guard Bureau, U.S. Department of Defense, and the appropriate local health departments and government agencies on PFAS contaminant issues.

#### PFAS -

Sometimes called PFCs, are a group of chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil.

- ➤ Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), sometimes called PFCs, are a group of chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil.
- ➤ PFAS have been classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an emerging contaminate on the national landscape.
- For decades, they have been used in many industrial applications and consumer products such as carpeting, waterproof clothing, upholstery, food paper wrappings, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating.
- These chemicals are persistent, which means they do not break down in the environment.

- They also bioaccumulate, meaning the amount builds up over time in the blood and organs.
- Studies in people who were exposed to PFAS found links between the chemicals and increased cholesterol, changes in the body's hormones and immune system, decreased fertility, and increased risk of certain cancers.
- The EPA has set a lifetime health advisory level for two PFAS in drinking water: perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). The lifetime advisory level is 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS combined.
- THE PFOA and PFOS LTHA is the level, or amount, below which no harm is expected from these chemicals. There are other PFAS compounds that do not have LTHA levels.

## State of Michigan PFAS Standard and EPA Lifetime Health Advisory Level – 70 PPT

- ➤ Michigan set a State standard of 70 PPT for PFAS in drinking water on January 9, 2018.
- The EPA has set a lifetime health advisory level for two PFAS in drinking water:

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)

The lifetime health advisory level is 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS combined.

- ➤ The PFOA and PFOS lifetime health advisory is the level, or amount, below which no harm is expected from these chemicals.
- > There are other PFAS compounds that do not have lifetime advisory levels.

### Taking Action, Protecting People

- ➤ Taking immediate action to mitigate risks to public health and protect environment.
- Studying the science and working with national experts to obtain the most up-to-date information.
- Working daily to identify potential locations for additional testing, environmental clean up and monitoring.
- > Working to provide interim and long term solutions to this issue.

For more information about PFAS contamination and the coordinated efforts currently underway to address it in Michigan.

### Michigan.gov/pfasresponse

State of Michigan Environmental Assistance Center **800-662-9278** 

MDHHS Toxicology Hotline 800-648-6942