

The Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics – McCaffrey Street Health Consultation - Community Fact Sheet June 2024

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) developed a Health Consultation for the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics—McCaffrey Street site (Saint-Gobain - McCaffrey Street site) located in the Village of Hoosick Falls, New York. NYSDOH prepared this health consultation under a cooperative agreement with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

This community fact sheet provides a summary of conclusions from the health consultation. Copies of the full document, which includes background information, are available online or by calling NYSDOH (see Agency Contact Information on last page).

A health consultation is a review of available environmental and/or health information prepared in response to a specific health or exposure issue. This health consultation provides information about health risks posed by exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the Hoosick Falls public drinking water system. The contamination came primarily from the Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street site. People on the Village of Hoosick Falls public water supply were exposed to PFOA and other related site contaminants in drinking water before additional drinking water filtration systems were installed in 2016. Since granulated activated carbon filtration systems for removing the contamination have been active, there are no longer detectable levels of PFOA and related environmental contaminants in the public water supply.

The Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street site was added to New York State’s Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites and to the National Priorities List (also known as the federal Superfund list) in 2016. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has also entered into a legal agreement with Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corporation and Honeywell International Inc. to investigate the nature and extent of contamination including but not limited to PFAS contamination at, and migrating from, the Saint-Gobain McCaffrey Street site.

This health consultation evaluated the public health implications of past exposure to contaminated drinking water in the Village of Hoosick Falls public water system using sampling data collected from November 2014 to February 2015, and from June 2015 to February 2016. The exposure parameters, toxicity values, and health-based water concentrations used to evaluate the public health implications for the PFAS substances detected in the Hoosick Falls public water system (perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA], perfluorobutane sulfonate [PFBS], perfluoroheptanoic acid [PFHpA], and perfluorooctane sulfonate [PFOS]) are current through March 2024. This health consultation predates the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s April 2024 final National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for six PFAS, which were announced on April 10, 2024:

<https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas> and published in the Federal Register on April 26, 2024: <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114-3076> .

The following conclusions are presented in this health consultation:

Conclusions

- Currently, drinking, and other uses of water from the Village of Hoosick Falls public water supply are not expected to harm people's health since granulated activated carbon filtration has been in place since 2016.
- Past exposure to PFOA in the Village of Hoosick Falls public water supply posed an increased risk for health effects, particularly noncancer health effects in infants and young children. The contribution of other PFAS chemicals detected at relatively much lower levels than PFOA in the water system (i.e., perfluorobutane sulfonate, perfluoroheptanoic acid, and perfluorooctane sulfonate) to the overall risk is relatively very small.

Recommendations and Next Steps

- The Village will continue to operate, monitor, and maintain the current treatment system for the Village of Hoosick Falls to ensure that site-related contaminants are effectively and consistently removed from the water before distribution.
- NYSDEC, US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and NYSDOH will continue to investigate measures to reduce site-related contaminants in groundwater in the Village of Hoosick Falls, including per- and polyfluoroalkylated substances.
- NYSDEC, USEPA, and NYSDOH will continue to evaluate other potential exposure pathways associated with the Saint-Gobain - McCaffrey site and implement appropriate actions.
- Health information related to PFOA in drinking water will continue to be developed and provided to affected residents, community members, and health professionals in the area.

Related Projects

Residents from the Hoosick Falls area and the City of Newburgh were chosen to take part in the national Multi-site PFAS Health Study (MSS). Researchers are looking closely at the role PFAS may play in various health outcomes by analyzing results from blood tests, health-related lab tests, and medical and exposure histories. New York's effort is led by researchers from NYSDOH and the University at Albany. Additional Multi-site PFAS Health Study communities are located

in California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. More information about the study is found at <https://www.albany.edu/sph/pfas>.

Prior to the MSS, starting in 2016, NYSDOH provided PFAS blood testing to community members in the Hoosick Falls area. More information about the NYSDOH drinking water response in the Hoosick falls area is found at: <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/investigations/hoosick/biomonitoring.htm>.

Nationally, ATSDR and the CDC are also working to address the concerns of community members regarding potential associations between PFAS exposure and health effects, and are providing technical assistance to tribal, state, and territorial health departments nationwide so they can effectively evaluate and reduce PFAS exposure in contaminated communities. For more information on these efforts, please see <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/activities/index.html>.

More Information

View the full health consultation at https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/investigations/saint_gobain

Health Questions: Contact the NYSDOH at 518-402-7860 or email BEEL@health.ny.gov

Environmental Investigation Questions: Contact the NYSDEC, Division of Environmental Remediation at 518-402-9676.

For questions about the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics—McCaffrey Street Health Consultation, contact:

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