



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

February 27, 2025

Rachelle Knight
NAVFAC HQ BRAC Program Management Office East
4911 South Broad Street, Bldg 679
Philadelphia, PA 19112

Re: Former NAS Brunswick, Mere Creek Golf Course well PFAS results.

Dear Rachelle,

On January 23, 2025 the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) sampled the well at the Mere Creek Golf Course, located southwest of the runway at the former NAS Brunswick Superfund Site. The concentration of the sum of 6 regulated PFAS contaminants¹ in this sample is 33.1 ng/L, exceeding Maine’s interim standard for PFAS of 20 ng/L. PFOS was 19.9 ng/L which exceeds USEPA’s PFOS MCL of 4 ng/L as well as DoD’s 12 ppt criterion for initiating removal actions to address private drinking water wells impacted by PFAS from DoD activities.

Previous sampling of this well by the Navy in November 2015 and November 2021 showed the sum of 6 PFAS at concentrations of 20.85 ng/L and 19.21 ng/L, respectively. PFOS was the dominant PFAS compound in the samples.

The source of the PFAS in this well is currently unknown. Nevertheless, given its proximity to the former NAS Brunswick, the Navy should investigate this area more thoroughly than in the past to evaluate the potential that PFAS from past Navy activities has impacted this well.

The Navy has performed a cursory investigation of this general area of the base but it is not enough to determine whether or not the PFAS in the golf course well is a result of past Navy activities.

The monitoring wells closest to the golf course are two overburden wells, MW-PFC-16 and MW-PFC-17, at the southwest corner of the runway, approximately 2000 feet north of the golf course well. The Navy sampled these wells in 2014 for PFOS and PFOA and results were Non-Detect. However, reporting limits were elevated compared to current reporting limits with a reporting limit for PFOS of 17-18 ng/L and for PFOA of about 7 ng/L. In addition, these monitoring wells are overburden wells whereas the golf course well is a bedrock well so the present monitoring wells do not give us any information regarding the water in the bedrock well.

¹ "Regulated PFAS contaminants" means perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, perfluorohexane sulfonic acid, perfluorononanoic acid, perfluoroheptanoic acid and perfluorodecanoic acid.

Because of the general lack of information regarding groundwater flow and PFAS concentrations in groundwater in this part of the base, and especially in the golf course well, we expect the Navy to add this area to the basewide PFAS remedial investigation.

In addition, note that there are several residences with private wells approximately 1000' from the golf course. Therefore, it will be necessary to sample these wells to determine if they are contaminated with PFAS related to past Navy activities.

Please feel free to contact me at (207) 592-2981 or iver.j.mcleod@maine.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Iver McLeod
Project Manager
Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management

Cf: Electronic Copy

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