

“PFAS: What are they, and what’s next?”

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Overview and Michigan Update

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a complex family of emerging contaminants made of more than 3,000 man-made fluorinated organic chemicals that have been produced since the 1940s. Due to their unique chemical characteristics such as oil and water repellency, temperature and chemical resistance, PFAS has been used in a wide range of consumer products and in many industries. During the last two decades, there has been an increased understanding on the environmental persistence and potential health effects of some PFAS, such as perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). This presentation will provide an overview of PFAS development, chemistry, uses, primary exposure routes, potential health effects, national regulatory climate, Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) update, remedial technologies, and challenges.

Speaker Panel

- **John Cuthbertson** is AECOM’s Central Region PFAS Practice Lead with over 27 years of environmental consulting experience supporting oil and gas, chemical, and industrial clients. He is a geologist and resides in AECOM’s Grand Rapids office. Mr. Cuthbertson currently manages multiple projects involving PFAS constituents and is experienced in analytical testing and methodologies, environmental fate and transport, assessment and investigation, and remedial technologies.
- **Sue Leeming** is the Deputy Director in the Executive Division of the DEQ, overseeing the Office of External Relations. She served as the Assistant Division Chief for the Remediation and Redevelopment Division, and was the Division Director from January 2017 through October 2017. Sue has over 35 years of experience with the Department of Natural Resources and the DEQ, starting as an aquatic biologist in the Office of Toxic Materials Control. She also has experience in a number of environmental programs, including the Great Lakes Remedial Action Plan/Lake-wide Management Plan Program, Fish Contaminant Monitoring Program, Storm Water Permit Program, and Cleanup Criteria for contaminated sites. Sue has previously managed the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program and the Brownfield Redevelopment Program, which provides approximately \$10 million annually in grant and loan funds to local units of government in Michigan.

Monday, March 12, 2018

5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

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Schedule of Events:

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Registration and Cocktail Reception

6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. – Dinner

7:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Presentation Followed by Questions

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