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PUBLIC NOTICE – IMACs EXPIRATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ)
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

December 8, 2025

The Division of Water Resources (DWR) received a request on July 22, 2024, to develop interim maximum allowable concentrations (IMACs) in groundwater for eight per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances (PFOS, PFOA, GenX, PFBS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFBA, and PFHxA). The intent to establish these IMACs was public noticed on September 4, 2024, with the opportunity for any interested party to submit a comment within a 30-day period. On October 15, 2024, groundwater IMACs were established for the eight PFAS substances ([Public Memorandum PFAS IMACs Establishment](#)).

On September 11, 2025, the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) adopted proposed amendments to 15A NCAC 02L .0202 to establish groundwater standards for three PFAS (PFOA, PFOS, and GenX). The EMC did not adopt new groundwater standards in place of the IMACs for five PFAS (PFBS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFBA, and PFHxA).

In accordance with 15A NCAC 02L .0202(c), the IMACs for PFBS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFBA, and PFHxA, expired September 11, 2025; therefore PFBS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFBA, and PFHxA shall not be permitted in concentrations at or above the practical quantitation limit [15A NCAC 02L .0202(c)].

In accordance with 15A NCAC 02L .0202(c), the IMACs for PFOA, PFOS, and GenX, expired November 1, 2025; therefore PFOA, PFOS and Gen X shall not be permitted in concentrations above the adopted groundwater standards in 15A NCAC 02L .0202(h).

More information about North Carolina's groundwater standards and IMACs can be found [online](#), including a link to the current [IMAC table](#).

For more information or questions, please contact Elizabeth Liebig at elizabeth.liebig@deq.nc.gov or 919-707-3674.



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