



PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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Air Force begins water distribution after PFOS/PFOA sampling

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Arizona – The Air Force is providing bottled water to some homeowners and private businesses near Luke Air Force Base after drinking water sampling results indicated the presence of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) at levels above the Environmental Protection Agency's lifetime health advisory for drinking water.

The Air Force Civil Engineer Center, in coordination with Valley Utilities Water Company, recently completed sampling of water distribution points that provide water to multiple homeowners and businesses immediately east of Luke AFB to determine the level of dissolved PFOS/PFOA compounds in drinking water. After receiving validated results from the contracted laboratory, AFCEC will begin distributing bottled water to affected residents on February 23. AFCEC is planning to install a filtration system upstream of the distribution points that will address PFOS/PFOA before it reaches users. The system should be operational in April.

Affected residents and businesses have been notified and may receive bottled water at the bottled water distribution center, operational from February 23 to March 22, located at 7011 North El Mirage Road, Glendale, AZ 85307. As specified in the notification letter, please bring a photo ID and a copy of the water bill and/or the letter received so that identity and address can be verified. The station will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. For questions regarding water distribution, residents can contact the hotline at 844-610-8899.

The sampling is part of the Air Force's proactive, service-wide investigation to assess potential impact to drinking water from PFOS/PFOA. The compounds were commonly used in many industrial and consumer products, and in aqueous film-forming foam used by commercial industries and the armed services to extinguish fuel fires.

Although the compounds are not regulated, the Air Force is taking proactive measures to ensure drinking water that might be impacted by our mission activities meets the EPA's lifetime health advisory of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOS and PFOA in drinking water.

“The Air Force has long roots in Glendale and Maricopa County, and we share community concerns about the potential impact of these compounds on drinking water,” said Brig. Gen. Gregory Kreuder, Luke AFB Commander. “We are committed to maintaining the utmost transparency throughout this process as we continue to take actions that protect our communities and residents.”

For more information on the Air Force’s response to PFOS and PFOA please visit <http://www.afcec.af.mil/WhatWeDo/Environment/Perfluorinated-Compounds/> or contact Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Public Affairs at 1-866-725-7617 or email AFIMSC.PA.Workflow@us.af.mil

For questions relating to Luke AFB, please call the Luke AFB Public Affairs Office at (623) 856-6011 or email 56fw.pa@us.af.mil