



PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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August 11, 2021

PFAS filtration facility near Luke AFB completed

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – The Air Force has completed installation of an ion exchange system designed to filter Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) found earlier this year in Valley Utilities Water Company (VUWCO) wells near Luke Air Force Base.

Following the discovery of PFOS and PFOA above the Environmental Protection Agency's lifetime health advisories for drinking water in the VUWCO system in February 2021, the Air Force Civil Engineer Center enacted a plan to provide bottled water delivery to all affected residents and businesses.

Over the next several weeks, Luke AFB and AFCEC will work diligently to notify all VUWCO customers that they can return to consuming the water provided by their taps. Residents currently receiving bottled water will receive information on the process for concluding their bottled water delivery service and returning water coolers, where provided. Residents can continue water delivery at their own cost, if they choose to do so.

"Being committed to doing the best for our neighbors and Airmen is a priority for us at Luke," said Col. Anthony Mullinax, 56th Mission Support Group commander. "Our team partnered with Valley and local authorities to reach a long-term solution as quickly as possible to ensure clean, reliable drinking water for the community. We are pleased to announce this goal has been achieved."

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.