

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Southern N.H. PFOA Investigation Update

Groundwater and Soil Sample Results from the Saint-Gobain Facility

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) today announced that it has received preliminary sample results for groundwater and soil samples taken at the Saint-Gobain facility in Merrimack, N.H. The groundwater test results were found to contain perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) concentrations ranging from 280 parts per trillion (ppt) to 5,800 ppt. A review of the preliminary soil sampling data found PFOA soil concentrations ranging from non-detect to 30 parts per billion (ppb). NHDES compared these results against residential soil screening levels developed by the United States Environment Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 of 16,000 ppb and the State of Vermont, which currently has a residential soil screening level of 0.3 mg/kg (equivalent to 300 ppb). The soil sample levels of PFOA detected at the Saint-Gobain facility are well below either of these screening values.

In addition to soil samples taken near the Saint-Gobain facility, at NHDES's request, Saint-Gobain will be testing soil at properties with sensitive populations (e.g., schools, daycare centers and playgrounds) within a 1-mile radius of the Saint-Gobain facility in Merrimack. NHDES identified eight properties in Merrimack and Litchfield that will be tested. NHDES has reviewed and commented on a draft work scope, and testing is anticipated to begin late next week. The study area will be expanded if the testing results indicate the presence of elevated PFOA or other PFCs in the soil. The study will be completed by Saint-Gobain's environmental consultants, under the direction of a NH-licensed Professional Engineer/Geologist. NHDES will also be overseeing the testing.

For more information related to the investigation, please visit the NHDES website at <http://m1e.net/c?219555423-ztgPHp220BGpc%40387043012-pT.7guq0QxGQg> .

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