

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



PRESS RELEASE

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City of Portsmouth and United States Air Force enter second agreement to continue Smith, Harrison and Haven Wells' renovation

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The City of Portsmouth and the United States Air Force are pleased to announce the execution of a second agreement to continue the design of a treatment system for the removal of perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) levels below the EPA health advisory, from water supplied by the Smith, Harrison and Haven Wells at the Pease Tradeport. This latest agreement will provide the City with reimbursement for engineering work to further determine the parameters and location of the final water treatment system. Additionally, the City's engineering consultant will perform an analysis of other existing municipal treatment plants currently treating PFCs to better define operating parameters.

"This next phase of work will advise the long-term operation of the Pease Tradeport wells," said Brian Goetz, Portsmouth's Deputy Director of Public Works. "Information gathered as part of this process will also be presented to the public in a future forum so that all are aware of the selected technologies and anticipated water quality. We anticipate this phase of work to take ten weeks. A public meeting would follow prior to the commencement of the final design."

Dr. Stephen TerMaath, Air Force BRAC Division Chief, stated: "We look forward to the completion of design plans for the carbon filtration system to reduce PFOS and PFOA to levels below the EPA health advisory in water from wells serving the Tradeport area. The Air Force and City share a commitment to the safety and well-being of the public and will continue to work together to protect human health by providing safe drinking water."

Portsmouth continues to support the goals of the EPA and DES with regard to aquifer restoration; this design work for a drinking water treatment system will be in parallel with the work that the Air Force is undertaking to satisfy the EPA's administrative order. Additional agreements between the City and the Air Force for design and construction are anticipated to be negotiated as soon as this phase of work has been completed.

Questions can be directed to:

- Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Public Works, at 603-766-1420
- Angelina Casarez, Public Affairs for the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, at 201-395-7409