OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

OKLAHOMA Environmental Quality

UCMR 5 – PFAS and Lithium

What is UCMR 5?

The fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) requires monitoring for 29 per- and polyfluroalkyl substances (PFAS) and a single metal analyte, lithium.

PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX and many others. These substances have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries across the globe, including the United States, since the 1940s.

Of all UCMR 5 contaminants, PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and utilized. These chemicals are very persistent in both the environment and in the human body, causing accumulation in the human body to occur due to the inability to break down over time.

PFAS can be found in:

- food packaging
- commercial household products (e.g., fabrics, nonstick products (Teflon), polishes, paints, cleaning products and firefighting foams)
- workplaces (e.g., chrome plating, electronics manufacturing, oil recovery, firefighting training facilities)
- drinking water, and•
- living organisms (bio-accumulation)

Do You Know All UCMR 5 Monitoring Requirements?

As proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), UCMR 5 sample collection begins in 2023 and continues through 2025.

EPA's UCMR program will require public water systems (PWS) to sample and analyze their water if the PWS:

- serves between 3,300 and 10,000 people, subject to certain conditions, and
- all systems serving over 10,000 people.

The UCMR program will also include a nationally representative portion of systems serving fewer than 3,300 persons. PWSs will be required to collect samples for the unregulated contaminants in the UCMR 5 for a continuous 12-month period during the sampling timeframe. Sampling will take place quarterly for systems that use surface water and ground water under the direct influence of surface water (a total of four sampling events), and at six-month intervals for ground water-only systems (a total of two sampling events).

The EPA's assessment of the UCMR data will help determine future regulatory requirements, with a goal of furthering the protection of public health.

For more information, visit:

https://www.epa.gov/pfas/basic-information-pfas

https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/

Questions?

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