

Message

From: Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]
Sent: 12/8/2017 4:55:58 PM
To: Catherine Clabby; **Ex. 6**
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: RE: Request for information regarding new PFAS programming

Cathy, that investigation is ongoing.

From: Catherine Clabby; **Ex. 6**
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2017 11:54 AM
To: Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>
Cc: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for information regarding new PFAS programming

Super. Thank you Enesta.

One more question. You told me some months ago that EPA was evaluating whether Chemours, and I assume DuPont, did not comply with the 2009 consent decree that allowed the companies to produce GenX as long as no more than 1 percent was released into the environment. What is the status of that review?

Best wishes again,
Cathy

Catherine Clabby | Journalist
Ex. 6 | @cathyclabby

On Dec 8, 2017, at 11:47 AM, Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Cathy, attributable to an EPA spokesperson:

EPA is working to identify near-term actions that the agency can take to address PFAS in the environment and help support local communities. The agency will also be working to identify and enhance coordination with our federal partners, the states and tribes. Over the years, EPA has coordinated with other federal agencies including DOD, HHS, and FDA on the PFOA/PFOS health advisories and other efforts related to PFAS. We have also worked closely with states and tribes on site-specific/local issues. Within the agency, EPA's water and research offices are leading these efforts and they will bring together expertise from across the agency and from throughout the regions.

The PFAS press release:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-cross-agency-effort-address-pfas>

I'll be sure to add you to the PFAS press release distribution list.

From: Catherine Clabby Ex. 6
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2017 8:46 AM
To: Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>
Cc: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Request for information regarding new PFAS programming

Hello Enesta.

Cathy Clabby here, from *North Carolina Health News*. You and I have corresponded before regarding concerns about PFAS pollution originating from the Chemours chemical plant complex in our state.

I'm writing about two things.

I'm requesting the written description of the EPA "cross-agency" initiative described [here](#) that is relevant to this contamination.

Also, what steps can I take to make sure that I am on any press mailings from EPA activity regarding PFAS, in North Carolina and elsewhere in the country.

Best wishes,
Cathy



Catherine Clabby (Sr. Environmental Reporter) is a science journalist and editor who has worked in newspaper, magazine, and digital book publishing. She is editor and co-author of *An Evolutionary War: Humanity Versus Malaria*, a digital, multimedia book under development. Catherine was senior editor of *EO Wilson's Life on Earth*, the digital-only biology textbook series produced in 2014. Much of her written and multimedia content for *LOE* focused on ecology. An alum fellow of the year-long MIT Knight Science Journalism Program, she is a former senior editor at *American Scientist* magazine in Research Triangle Park and a former science reporter at the *News & Observer* in Raleigh, N.C.

Catherine Clabby | Journalist
Ex. 6 @cathyclabby

On Oct 18, 2017, at 2:53 PM, Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Catherine, the responses to your follow-up questions are below. Please attribute them to an agency spokesperson.

1. You heard Dr. Strynar say that he took a more difficult path to characterize the unknown PFAS compounds in the Cape Fear River. That's because if he had obtained

information that DuPont had submitted to EPA regarding what it was producing, he could have faced limitations on what he could have made public.

Is there any effort afoot within the agency to change that practice so that EPA scientists can obtain information filed with the agency when studying emerging contaminants without facing limitations on public disclosure about what chemicals are being released by manufacturing facilities? PFAS were of enough concern that EPA required sampling for them as part of the 3rd unregulated contaminant monitoring rule. (See list of compounds in screen grab below.)

Our process for protection of and access to materials claimed as confidential business information (CBI) is consistent with the framework laid out under the Toxic Substances Control Act. Provisions are in place for federal employees to access CBI if needed for the required performance of their jobs.

2. Will EPA continue to support Dr. Strynar's efforts to look for and identify unregulated chemicals released by industrial sites during the Trump Administration?

Yes. One of Administrator Pruitt's priorities for EPA is to provide support to the states. The work EPA is currently doing on GenX in NC is at the request of NC DEQ.

Perfluorinated Compounds: EPA Method 537		
perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) 1763-23-1	0.04	Surfactant or emulsifier; used in fire-fighting foam, circuit board etching acids, alkaline cleaners, floor polish, and as a pesticide active ingredient for insect bait traps; U.S. manufacture of PFOS phased out in 2002; however, PFOS still generated incidentally
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) 335-67-1	0.02	Perfluorinated aliphatic carboxylic acid; used for its emulsifier and surfactant properties as fluoropolymers (such as Teflon), fire-fighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, greases and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives and photographic films
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) 375-95-1	0.02	Manmade chemical; used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) 355-46-4	0.03	Manmade chemical; used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) 375-85-9	0.01	Manmade chemical; used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) 375-73-5	0.09	Manmade chemical; used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant

On Oct 17, 2017, at 12:23 PM, Catherine Clabby [Ex. 6] wrote:

Thank you Enesta. I'm hoping I'm on the press release list if and when the EPA does make an announcement on this matter or anything else related to PFAS contamination in North Carolina and our region.

Thank you again for your swift help.

Cathy

Catherine Clabby | Journalist

Ex. 6 @cathyclabby

On Oct 17, 2017, at 12:20 PM, Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Catherine, attributable to an agency spokesperson:

No new information at this time.

On Oct 17, 2017, at 9:40 AM, Catherine Clabby
Ex. 6 wrote:

Hi Ernesta. Is there any news yet regarding the Chemours investigation we've corresponded about before? Is it finished? Likely to be finished soon?

If done, what are the results?

My deadline is Wednesday this week.

Best wishes,
Cathy Clabby

On Sep 7, 2017, at 7:18 PM, Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Catherine, for attribution to an EPA spokesperson:

The investigation is still ongoing. It's EPA policy not to discuss ongoing investigations.

From: Catherine Clabby

Ex. 6

Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 3:17 PM

To: Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Checking in for update re: Chemours PFAS compounds released in Cape Fear River

Thank you!

Tomorrow is my deadline. Sunday really but I hope you do not work in weekends!

Cathy

On Sep 7, 2017, at 3:14 PM, Jones, Enesta
<Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Catherine, I'll look into this.
What's your deadline?

On Sep 7, 2017, at 3:13 PM,
Catherine Clabby

Ex. 6

wrote:

Hello Enesta.

You helped me earlier this summer regarding getting information about EPA's investigation regarding Chemours Co's compliance with a 2009 order EPA issued under the TSCA regarding the production of GenX. (Please see email thread below.) Thank you again for that!

I'm checking in to learn about the status of that investigation you described.

At what stage is the probe now?

Has EPA found evidence that Chemours did not comply with the order.

Does EPA expect to take any regulatory action against Chemours or DuPont on this matter?

I'm happy to talk by phone if that is best.

Best wishes,
Cathy Clabby
NC Health News

I'm just back from a summer trip. In case it is of use to you, here is our most recent story on the issues of GenX and wider PFAS and PFOA contamination in North Carolina.

<https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2017/08/17/genx-pollution-what-happened-when/>

Catherine Clabby | Journalist

Ex. 6 @cathyclabby

On Jul 12, 2017, at 3:21 PM, Jones, Enesta
<Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Catherine,

Please attribute our response below to an EPA spokesperson:

EPA has initiated an investigation into Chemours's compliance with a 2009 order issued under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for the production of GenX. This investigation will allow EPA to determine whether Chemours is in compliance with requirements of the order to control releases to the

environment at the Fayetteville, N.C., facility. EPA is also reviewing the additional toxicity data submitted by the company, as required under the consent order, and updating the risk assessment using the additional toxicity data specific to GenX. At the request of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), scientists in EPA's Office of Research and Development are conducting an independent laboratory analysis of four rounds of water samples being collected by NCDEQ at 13 locations in the Cape Fear River in June and July.

Under the terms of the Consent Order, for operations in the United States, DuPont (Chemours) is required to recover and capture (destroy) or recycle the chemical from all the process wastewater effluent streams and air emissions (point source and fugitive) at an overall efficiency rate of 99% (i.e., 99% of the chemical can't be released into the environment). Further, under the terms of the Consent Order, Dupont may only distribute the

chemical to those customers, such as manufacturers and processors, that can also achieve this percentage of efficiency or destruction.

From: Catherine Clabby

Ex. 6

Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 9:27 PM

To: Lincoln, Larry <Lincoln.Larry@epa.gov>; Marraccini, Davina

<Marraccini.Davina@epa.gov>

Subject: Reporter's query about GenX issue in Cape Fear

Hi Larry and Davina. I'm a reporter at *NC Health News*. Jamie Krietzer at NC DEQ said you would be the right pios at EPA to contact regarding questions regarding the ongoing inquiry to the discovery of PFOA replacement chemicals in the Cape Fear River downstream of the Chemours' Fayetteville Works.

For a story I'm filing on Wednesday, here are my questions:

What is the scope of EPA's investigation into the discovery of the

compounds in the
Cape Fear?

If the EPA determines
that Chemours plant
did not comply with
2009 consent order
with EPA that strictly
limited release of
PFOA replacement
chemicals from its
GenX operation in
Fayetteville, what
range of penalties
could EPA impose on
the company?

Chemours officials
have told NC officials
that the compounds
did not come from its
GenX operations.
Instead they came
from another site at
Fayetteville Works,
possibly starting back
in the 1980s. Does
that appear to be
plausible?

Given the limits of
release imposed by
the consent order, did
Chemours have any
legal standing to
release the PFOA
replacements from
anywhere at
Fayetteville Works in
the river?

How long as EPA
been aware that that
PFOA replacements
were being released
from the industrial
property?

I'm happy to speak by
phone if that is best
for you.

Thank you in advance
for your help.

Best wishes,
Cathy Clabby

Enesta Jones
U.S. EPA
Office of Media
Relations
Office:
202.564.7873

Ex. 6

**"The root of all joy
is gratefulness."**