

Southern Area Groundwater Evaluation

Questions & Answers

Q: What did your report find?

A: We submitted our report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on March 19, 2020. We closely examined an area beyond the current southern boundary of the site investigation area. Based on the data collected and a detailed analysis of the area and geography, we've determined that the low levels of PFAS in this new study area are unrelated to Tyco's Fire Technology Center (FTC) or its firefighting foam.

Q: What led you to that determination?

A: PFAS mixtures are very different depending on their source. The PFAS in the new area we just studied have very different characteristics from the PFAS associated with our FTC.

Q: Are there other factors involved?

A: We also studied the geological makeup of the area, in particular how the groundwater and surface water flows from one location to another. It is clear from this scientific assessment that PFAS from the FTC could not have traveled to the area that is south of the already defined southern boundary.

Q: If not from Tyco, where is the PFAS coming from?

A: All we can say with confidence is that the PFAS is not coming from groundwater associated with the FTC or any other Tyco property. We cannot say where it's coming from at this time. We know, for example, that water from two of the five sewer lines leading into the Marinette Wastewater Treatment Plant – lines that do not connect to the FTC – had PFAS. So, we know there are other sources of PFAS in the area, but the WDNR has not yet identified them.