

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

October 16, 2018

Mr. Sandeep Burman
Manager
Site Remediation and Redevelopment
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
1101 17th Street, N.W.; Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Burman:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Environment on September 6, 2018, to testify at the hearing entitled "Perfluorinated Chemicals in the Environment: An Update on the Response to Contamination and Challenges Presented."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Tuesday, October 30, 2018. Your responses should be mailed to Kelly Collins, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to kelly.collins@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



John Shimkus
Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment

cc: The Honorable Paul Tonko, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Environment

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable John Shimkus

1. Your written testimony discusses the emerging nature of the PFAS chemicals and you point out that until the mid-2000s these chemicals could not be detected in the environment. Can you walk us through why that was and what changed?
 - a. As the science continues to develop, what will we discover about PFAS contamination and its prevalence?
 - b. Do States and Territories have a plan to address that more pervasive PFAS contamination?
2. What steps has the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials taken to coordinate efforts among the States and Territories and coordinate efforts with EPA and local governments regarding the issues associated with the PFAS chemicals?
3. Is EPA doing enough to coordinate with States and Territories on the PFAS issue?
 - a. Is EPA providing sufficient support to the States and Territories with respect to the PFAS issue?
4. Your written testimony notes that “States are also unclear on how responsible parties can be required to remediate PFAS contamination.”
 - a. Why is that?
 - b. Are the parties responsible for PFAS contamination meaningfully addressing the cleanup of the contamination?
5. Your written testimony points out that EPA should treat the multiple PFAS chemicals as a class or mixture of chemicals in order to designate them as hazardous substances under CERCLA and hazardous waste under RCRA.
 - a. Why is this important?
 - b. Can you walk us through what this means?
6. Your written testimony states that national collaboration on the issue of PFAS contamination is critically needed.
 - a. What are the biggest challenges facing the States and Territories with respect to the PFAS issue?

- b. Can you walk us through what ASTSWMO is doing currently and what you think needs to be done in the future?
7. What do you think the Department of Defense should be doing to address PFAS contamination?
8. It appears that detection applies to plumes of contamination spreading from sites, and has led to concerns that problem is getting worse? Is it getting worse or are we just now seeing what we did not see before?
9. Would you describe how states work with DOD to detect PFAS?
 - a. How do you work with EPA to ensure you are using the most appropriate assessment technologies?
10. For site remediation, what are the available methods that may be deployed?
 - a. What is the Federal government doing to ensure communities have sufficient information to assess the public health benefits against the cost for deploying these systems?