South Carolina CODEL Notification

For

PFOS/PFOA Remedial Investigation

Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina

During the Air Force’s Site Inspection to evaluate PFOS/PFOA at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, our focus was to determine if a release of PFOS/PFOA occurred and ensure no one is drinking water above the EPA's Lifetime Health Advisory (HA) of 70 parts per trillion. Where concentrations of PFOS/PFOA in drinking water wells were found to be above the Lifetime HA attributable to Air Force activities, the Air Force took immediate action to provide alternative drinking water.

The Air Force is now moving into the Remedial Investigation (RI) phase of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. A contract to begin the RI at Shaw Air Force Base was awarded on September 25, 2020.

The RI is a multi-year effort that involves collecting data to characterize site conditions, determine the nature and extent of PFOS/PFOA, assess the exposure pathways to potential receptors, and assess risk to human health and the environment. During the RI phase we collect information necessary to adequately characterize the site for the purpose of developing and evaluating effective remedial alternatives.

It is important to note that the Air Force is not precluded from implementing cleanup actions during the conduct of the RI if warranted. If during the course of the RI, or at any time during the CERCLA process, data is gathered that indicates a response, including a removal action or an interim remedial action, is needed in the near term, that response may be implemented.

The Air Force remains committed to identifying and addressing environmental impacts of PFOS/PFOA for communities surrounding our installation. The safety and health of our Airmen, their families, and the surrounding community is our priority.