



THE UNITED STATES  
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



September 20, 2022

Mr. Barry Breen  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Land and Emergency Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OLEM-2019-0341**

Dear Acting Assistant Administrator Breen:

On behalf of the nation's mayors, cities and counties, we respectfully ask for a 60-day extension - at minimum - to submit comments on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Proposed *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Hazardous Substances: Designation of Perfluorooctanoic Acid and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid*. We further request that EPA prepare and publicly report a full economic and regulatory impact analysis of the proposed action.

Implementing the proposed rule will impact the operations and budgets of local government drinking water, wastewater, airports, firefighting, and landfill facilities and could impose significant new financial burdens on households in our communities. Given the scope and magnitude of impacts that will occur when local governments are required to administer and implement a final version of this proposed rule, and the likelihood of additional legal implications for local governments, we request that EPA extend the comment deadline to allow additional time to review and provide appropriate comments.

It is for these same reasons that EPA must prepare and report with complete transparency a full economic and regulatory impact analysis. This analysis of the full direct and indirect costs and benefits has not been prepared by the agency to date despite the White House Office of Management and Budget's designation of the proposed rule as economically significant. Due to this current lack of critical information, local governments request the agency work expeditiously to complete the analysis.

This analysis is even more critical given EPA's failure to conduct a consultation consistent with E.O. 13132: Federalism, despite the clear economic significance of the rule and its implications for state and local governments.


As intergovernmental partners, local leaders are dedicated to addressing concerns related to PFAS exposure and protecting the health and well-being of residents. We therefore urge the EPA to work with us to determine the best way to address PFAS in the environment.

On behalf of the nation's mayors, cities and counties, we thank you for considering these requests and we look forward to working with the agency to ensure a final rule is practical and implementable at the local level. If you have any questions, please contact our staff: Judy Sheahan (USCM) at 202-861-6775 or [jsheahan@usmayors.org](mailto:jsheahan@usmayors.org); Carolyn Berndt (NLC) at 202-626-3101 or [Berndt@nlc.org](mailto:Berndt@nlc.org); or Sarah Gimont (NACo) at 202-942-4254 or [sgimont@naco.org](mailto:sgimont@naco.org).

Sincerely,



Tom Cochran  
CEO and Executive Director  
The U.S. Conference of Mayors



Clarence E. Anthony  
CEO and Executive Director  
National League of Cities



Matthew D. Chase  
Executive Director  
National Association of Counties