



Dear IRWA Members,

Subject: Idaho PFAS Cost Recovery Program

Idaho Rural Water Association (IRWA) has teamed with National Rural Water Association to make you aware of a PFAS Cost Recovery Program that we strongly encourage your utility to register into, at no cost, to protect your utility and rate payers from a PFAS contamination financial burden.

As background, when the 2016 health advisory was issued by U.S. EPA, the National Rural Water Association Board of Directors, which is comprised of a National Director from all 50 state affiliates including IRWA, voted to engage the Napoli Shkolnik law firm to file a cost recovery action that would allow all utilities to register and recover any current and projected future expenses for testing, treatment and remediation due to PFAS contamination upon any potential settlement or judgement in your favor. For clarification, this is not a class action lawsuit as there are multiple classes of plaintiffs, thus they are combined into what is called multidistrict litigation. The three points we want to stress to utilities are:

1. The action is cost recovery, not punitive.
2. The litigation is filed against the global manufacturers of the compounds and does not impact local companies who may have used them.
3. There is zero upfront cost to register the utility onto the cost rolls, however, a system must be registered prior to any settlement or judgement being reached in order to benefit. While there is no timeframe as to when a settlement may be finalized, those settlement talks are underway. The recently announced revised health advisory from EPA will further place pressure on a potential settlement being reached.

There is no threshold or cost to register onto the cost recovery rolls, we encourage all systems to register and protect their system and ratepayers from a potential increased financial burden. Systems should register regardless of testing or detection status. Registering onto the cost recovery rolls is like an insurance policy without a premium and if asked by your customers, a strong positive message that the system has undertaken action to lessen any financial burden resulting from PFAS contamination.

Time is of the essence; the EPA recently set health advisory levels for PFAS as low as 4 parts per quadrillion. The EPA is in the process of establishing an enforceable maximum contaminant level (MCL) under the Safe Drinking Water Act, which essentially means that a system with any level of detection is likely to be out of compliance with the federal standard. Finally, EPA is planning to designate PFOS and PFOA as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). All these factors raise the potential for a large financial impact if these forever compounds are detected at your utility.

The Idaho Rural Water Association encourages you to take the first step and register your utility at [www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas](http://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas). **Act soon! The deadline could be as early as 12/31/2022 to register.**

Sincerely,



Shelley Roberts, CEO



Hank Naughton, Partner



# PFAS Cost Recovery Program

The Idaho Rural Water Association and the National Rural Water Association engaged the law firm of Napoli Shkolnik to file a cost recovery action to provide water and wastewater systems the opportunity to recover any current or future expenses for testing, treatment and remediation of PFAS contamination. Registering onto the cost recovery rolls is like an insurance policy without a premium and if asked by your customers, a strong positive message that the system has undertaken action to lessen any financial burden resulting from PFAS contamination.

**Time is of the essence; we encourage all systems to register NOW!**

## NO COST

- Zero upfront cost to register the utility onto the cost rolls.
- A system must be registered prior to any settlement or judgement being reached in order to benefit.

## DON'T MISS OUT

- While there is no timeframe as to when a settlement may be finalized, those settlement talks are underway.

## NO TESTING REQUIRED

- There is no threshold or cost to register onto the cost recovery rolls.
- Systems should register regardless of testing or detection status.

## COMPLY WITH GUIDELINES

- The EPA recently set health advisory levels for PFAS as low as 4 parts per quadrillion.
- A system with any level of detection is likely to be out of compliance with the federal standard.

## HOW TO REGISTER AND PROTECT YOUR UTILITY FROM OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS:



Call Hank Naughton, Managing Partner at 978-852-3643



Email Hank Naughton, Managing Partner, at [hnaughton@napolilaw.com](mailto:hnaughton@napolilaw.com)



Register at [www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas](http://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas)

Formal presentations are available to your utility and can be arranged by contacting Hank Naughton at [hnaughton@napolilaw.com](mailto:hnaughton@napolilaw.com) or 978-852-3643.



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