Message

From: Nitsch, Chad [Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov]
Sent: 5/21/2020 2:38:26 PM
To: Rogers, Rick [rogers.rick@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Galloway et al. 2020 Proof - ORD sponsored study on PFOA and GenX in WV and OH around the Chemours Washington Works plant

Appreciate you flagging this.

Chad Nitsch
Director, Office of Public Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency – Region 3 (Mid-Atlantic: WV, VA, PA, MD, DE, DC, and 7 federally recognized tribes)
215-814-5434

From: Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 5:42 PM
To: Melvin, Karen <Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>; Armstrong, Joan <Armstrong.Joan@epa.gov>; Libertz, Catherine <Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>; Dressel, Paul <DRESSEL.PAUL@EPA.GOV>; McGuigan, David <McGuigan.David@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Dinsmore, Andrew <Dinsmore.Andrew@epa.gov>; Kim, Lena <Kim.Lena@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; Esher, Diana <Esher.Diana@epa.gov>; Ferrell, Mark <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>; Burneson, Eric <Burneson.Eric@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Theis, Joseph <Theis.Joseph@epa.gov>; Speir, Jeffrey <speir.jeffrey@epa.gov>; Fernandez, Cristina <Fernandez.Cristina@epa.gov>; Arnold, David <arnold.david@epa.gov>
Cc: Hirsh, Steven <Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>; Allenbach, Becky <Allenbach.Becky@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Galloway et al. 2020 Proof - ORD sponsored study on PFOA and GenX in WV and OH around the Chemours Washington Works plant

PFAS research paper's pending publication heads up.

The attached research paper will be made public in about one week. This study, sponsored by EPA's ORD, was conducted by researchers from Ohio State University. They sampled surface waters and soils in WV and OH for PFOA and GenX. They will be reporting on the presence of the chemicals in soils and surface waters in samples taken up to 28 km away from the Chemours plant and attribute this distribution to air releases at the Chemours plant followed by atmospheric transport and deposition.

These findings were not surprising as we have been directing Chemours under our SDWA administrative order, to conduct sampling of public water supplies and private wells for many years, particularly in the direction of the prevailing winds where higher concentrations were found and further from the plant. This work is on-going. EPA continues to require Chemours to expand their sampling area as new data is submitted and expanded sampling is indicated. About two years ago, we requested Chemours voluntarily begin sampling for GenX in a select group of public and private drinking water wells. Chemours agreed to that request and has been submitting the GenX data with the PFOA sampling data.

ORD's research has found PFOA and GenX in surface waters and soils farther from the Chemours' Washington Works plant than we have detected PFOA and GenX in well water. Because of this, Regions 3 and 5 submitted a joint RARE proposal for 2019/2020 funding to being a study with ORD authors of the attached paper to conduct sampling and analysis to try and determine the rate of percolation of GenX through soils to well-water depths in aquifers. If successful, this would provide regulators some information about how much time will elapse before GenX starts showing up in groundwater used as a drinking water source. This project was selected for funding. The current Covid-19 Pandemic crisis has significantly delayed progress on this project.

Region 3 and ORD also provided analytical and technical support to WVDEP for testing for PFAS releases from Chemours' air stacks. I'm not sure the status of that work.

ORD's message, below, indicates that their comms staff will be in touch with the Region 3 and 5 OPA folks. I have asked that they share any communications documents with us.

I'm copying folks in OW and OECA since I'm not sure ORD included them in this heads up as well as Becky in Region 4 because of related issues with a Chemours facility in North Carolina.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Rick

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From: Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:36 PM
To: Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Konfirst, Matthew <konfirst.matthew@epa.gov>; Wilson, Jennifer <wilson.jenniferA@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>
Cc: Strynar, Mark <Strynar.Mark@epa.gov>
Subject: Galloway et al. 2020 Proof

Regina, Jenny, Roger, and Rick

Our paper "Evidence of Air Dispersion: HFPO−DA and PFOA in Ohio and West Virginia Surface Water and Soil near a Fluoropolymer Production Facility"
Is about to be published in *Environmental Science & Technology.*

I've attached the galley proof of the paper that will probably be released next week.

The journal is going to issue a press release about the article when it is published. The ORD communications staff is working to notify the Regions, OW, and others who should be made aware of this pending publication.

Thank you all for your valuable contributions to this work. I hope this helps us continue to do more to help the communities in this area.

Thank you very much,

Andy

From: Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Konfirst, Matthew <konfirst.matthew@epa.gov>; Wilson, Jennifer <wilson.jenniferA@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: RARE project

Thanks for letting us know Andy. Can you please provide the final manuscript to the regions when that is available?

Regina

From: Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Konfirst, Matthew <konfirst.matthew@epa.gov>; Wilson, Jennifer <wilson.jenniferA@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: RARE project

Regina,

We also received word this week that the Galloway et al. manuscript on PFOA and GenX in the Parkersburg area has been accepted for publication at ES&T (please see below for details).

Thanks to all who helped with that effort.

I expect that publication of this manuscript will heighten interest in this topic and the RARE project in the coming weeks.

Thank you very much,

Andy

From: Environmental Science & Technology <onbehalfof@manuscriptcentral.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 12:13 PM
To: Weavers, Linda <weavers.1@osu.edu>
Cc: field-office@est.acs.org
Subject: Final decision on ES&T manuscript es-2019-07384q.R1

05-May-2020

Journal: Environmental Science & Technology Manuscript ID: es-2019-07384q.R1
Title: "Evidence of Air Dispersion: HFPO-DA and PFOA in Ohio and West Virginia Surface Water and Soil Near a Fluoropolymer Production Facility"
Author(s): Galloway, Jason; Moreno, Anjelica; Lindstrom, Andrew; Strynar, Mark; Newton, Seth; May, Andrew; Weavers, Linda Manuscript Status: Accept

Dear Dr. Weavers:

We are pleased to inform you that your manuscript has been accepted for publication in Environmental Science & Technology. Your manuscript has been forwarded to the ACS Publications office. You will be contacted in the near future by the ACS Journal Publishing Staff regarding the proofs for your manuscript. Please note: An ACS ID is required to access proof materials. If you do not have an ACS ID, you will be prompted to create one.

Environmental Science & Technology encourages authors to submit tweets about their work to post to the journal Twitter account (@EnvSciTech). If you would like for us to tweet about your article when it appears online, please recommend a 120-character tweet (including spaces) to the editorial office (managing.editor@est.acs.org) and include your Manuscript ID number as the subject line. Note that we may modify the tweet before posting, and we may not be able to include all tweets submitted. We appreciate your willingness to provide the tweet within one week of receipt of this email.

Your proof will be prepared by our staff in Columbus, Ohio, and will be sent to you electronically. After you approve your proofs, your manuscript will be published on the Web in approximately 48 hours. In view of this fast publication time, it is important to review your proofs carefully. In addition, the Editors assume that all patent and Journal Publishing Agreement issues have been resolved before articles are submitted. ACS considers that the date on which the article is published on the Web is the official date of publication. Any change to the manuscript once it appears on the Web will need to be submitted to the journal office as additions or corrections.

If you have further questions about your paper, please contact the ACS Journal Publications staff directly at acsproof@acs.org. Be sure to identify the journal and manuscript number. We have enjoyed working with you on this paper and look forward to receiving other contributions from you in the future.

Once your paper is published, you can track downloads and citations of your work by logging into the ACS Publishing Center (https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__https%3A%2F%2Fpubs.acs.org%2Fpublish%2Fdashboard__%3B!!KGKeukY!Iji89elU0QOhlNOyoCFgyOjXQU-t7sgs52DWFa-idhmdHJ1TDUn5Y3s6iOylYIE-%24&data=02%7C01%7CStrynar.Mark%40epa.gov%7C3100a93df54642fe3fa208d7f1117597%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637242929599130256&sdata=fDkZgj0Ot6vAKlCD8LHz9yXn%2BJZ2I%2Fp7qPP7%2B9LrgCc%3D&reserved=0) and selecting "Published".

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer A. Field
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E-mail: field-office@est.acs.org

From: Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 12:36 PM
To: Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Konfirst, Matthew <konfirst.matthew@epa.gov>; Wilson, Jennifer <wilson.jenniferA@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: RARE project

Andy thanks for the quick response. Hopefully the security issue gets sorted out soon. Happy to see you're able to move forward with some aspects of the project though. If you need anything from me do not hesitate to reach out.

Don't know about R5 but R3 isn't providing dates for return. Since we are largely a commuter office most people are wary of returning to mass transit. They say they are going to be flexible so we will see. Working from home does have its advantages but I am getting restless! Hope the weather gets warm soon.

Regina

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From: Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Konfirst, Matthew <konfirst.matthew@epa.gov>; Wilson, Jennifer <wilson.jenniferA@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: RARE project

Regina,

There is no problem with the funding. **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** Her first day was supposed to have been this past Monday, but I guess things are taking a little longer than usual. As you know, I would like to have her start with a review of the existing Parkersburg data, with the goal being a publishable manuscript sometime later.

We're finishing up the tables and figures for our draft sample plan which now contains approximately 100 individual sample points where we propose collection of soil, ground water, surface water, and plant material (we know this is highly aspirational). We have six separate hypotheses/factors articulated that these samples are meant to address. I hope to get you all this draft sampling outline/plan sometime next week.

I've heard no indication of when we may be called to return to work at the RTP facility. I anticipate that this will be a phased process that is likely to take some time to complete.

Have you heard about return to R3 and R5 headquarters?

Thank you very much,

Andy

From: Poeske, Regina <Poeske.Regina@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 10:59 AM
To: Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>; Reinhart, Roger <Reinhart.Roger@epa.gov>; Konfirst, Matthew <konfirst.matthew@epa.gov>; Wilson, Jennifer <wilson.jenniferA@epa.gov>
Subject: RARE project

Hi all,

Hope you are all well under the circumstances. I am just checking in to see if things are able to progress with your RARE project or if there are issues I should be aware of particularly with funds. Thanks for a quick update.

Regina

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