

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 23, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

We write in strong support of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) commitment to set a national drinking water maximum contaminant level (MCL) for perfluorooctanoic acid/perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOA/PFOS) by proposing a regulatory determination in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The EPA's Per- and -Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Action Plan, issued last February, projected that the determination would be proposed in 2019.

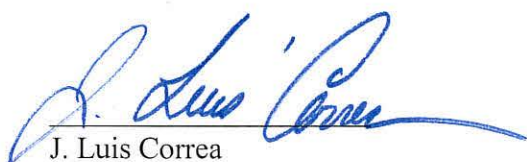
We respectfully request that the EPA expedite the regulatory determination and the subsequent steps required by the SDWA for setting an MCL to ensure that the enforceable standard is based on appropriate human health and scientific studies and to help guarantee consistency across the United States.

The Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District) has been extensively monitoring PFAS in our groundwater basin for 19 municipal and special water districts that deliver water to more than 2.5 million residents in north and central Orange County.

With the lack of progress toward a federal standard, multiple states are moving towards adopting their own guidance values and MCLs for multiple PFAS with varying timelines and underlying approaches. This process is likely to lead to inconsistent standards across the nation and will result in confusion from water managers and the public. With our districts at the forefront of this pressing issue, we would also appreciate the opportunity to be engaged in any federal special task forces related to PFAS.

We cannot afford to risk the health of our communities because of missing regulatory standards, therefore, we respectfully request an expedited regulatory determination, based in sound scientific information, by the EPA to set an MCL for PFAS to help ensure national consistency.

Sincerely,



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Harley Rouda
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Alan S. Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros
Member of Congress