

Inquiry into PFAS Contamination in Waterways and Drinking Water Supplies Throughout New South Wales

Hearing – 4/02/2025 and 5/02/2025

Supplementary questions - NSW Health Responses

QUESTION 1

Why is NSW Health resisting calls for PFAS blood testing?

ANSWER

Please refer to Dr McAnulty's response provided at p53-54 of the transcript.

Based on the current available evidence, there is no known clinical benefit of blood testing for individuals. Screening of blood or testing of blood for an individual does not provide evidence that either predicts disease outcome or helps in the diagnosis of any health conditions.

QUESTION 2

Will NSW adopt stricter PFAS exposure limits in line with international guidelines?

ANSWER

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has a robust process for expert, evidence-based rolling revision of the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines*. In October 2024, the NHMRC published proposed changes to guideline value for PFAS. NSW Health will support the implementation of revised guideline values for PFAS when they are finalised.

QUESTION 3

Why has the EPA not taken stronger enforcement action against PFAS polluters?

ANSWER

This is a matter for the Environment Protection Authority.

QUESTION 4

Should NSW ban the future use of all PFAS chemicals?

ANSWER

This is a matter for the Environment Protection Authority and the Government.