



REGION 1

BOSTON, MA 02109

VIA EMAIL - READ RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 16, 2024

RE: AOF Monitoring Notification under NPDES Permit

To Whom it May Concern:

In January 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water, published Method 1621, "Determination of Adsorbable Organic Fluorine (AOF) in Aqueous Matrices by Combustion Ion Chromatography (CIC)," a method to measure the aggregate concentration of organofluorines (molecules with a carbon-fluorine bond) in wastewater. The most common sources of organofluorines are PFAS and non-PFAS fluorinated compounds such as pesticides and pharmaceuticals.¹

This letter is to notify you that this multi-lab validated method has been finalized and AOF monitoring requirements in your NPDES permit will take effect based on the frequency and timing specified in your NPDES permit beginning the first full semi-annual period following six months from this notification (*i.e.*, beginning the period of January-June, 2025). This monitoring requirement may already be displayed in Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) before the January-June 2025 DMR. For any 2024 DMRs with AOF reporting displayed, please insert the No Date Indicator Code "9" indicating Condition Monitoring – Not Required This Period.

Please contact Nathan Chien at Chien.Nathan@epa.gov or (617) 918-1649 if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,

Ellen Weitzler, Supervisor
Industrial and Municipal Permits Section, Water Division

Cc: David Boyer, MassDEP, via email
Xiaodan Ruan, MassDEP, via email

¹ Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-01/method-1621-for-web-posting.pdf>