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April 13, 2015

Weekly Pease Perfluorochemical (PFC) Testing Program Update

Community Engagement:

- We are working with the Portsmouth Health Officer to set up a Community Advisory Board. This advisory board will be independent from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and will serve to give feedback and recommendations about the DHHS testing program, including communication efforts, reporting of results, and input on future direction of the testing program.
- We anticipate that this community advisory board will be established in the next 1-2 weeks.
- NH DHHS has a twitter account where we will send out periodic updates along with this weekly update. The NH DHHS Public Information Twitter account is: @NHDHHSPIO.

Testing Process:

- As of Friday 4/10/15, a total of 333 persons have indicated interest in blood testing for PFCs; this includes 234 adults and 99 children.
- Information packets with questionnaires and consent/assent forms have been mailed to a total of 261 families (sometimes with multiple people in a family).
- Portsmouth Hospital phlebotomy facilities at the Pease Tradeport are ready to test -- participants with DHHS-issued requisition forms and labels can go to the Portsmouth Regional Hospital blood draw facility on the Pease Tradeport (located at 26 Manchester Square, Portsmouth, NH) to get their blood drawn, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Note: This address was incorrectly given previously.
- As of Friday 4/10/15, we have received 3 blood specimens in the NH DHHS lab. We will be grouping blood specimens into batches of 30-40 samples prior to shipping to the testing lab.

Noteworthy Events and Meetings:

- The NH DHHS hosted a community meeting on Tuesday night March 31, 2015 at the Pease Tradeport to discuss the PFC testing program and hear community feedback. Video of this event can be found on the DHHS website at: <http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dphs/investigation-pease.htm>
- We will meet with the Community Advisory Board once it has been established.

Any persons with questions about the testing program can call the DHHS Public Inquiry line Monday – Friday, 8am–4pm, at 603-271-9461.