



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Scott Dewhirst, Tacoma Water Superintendent
COPY: Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee;
Michael P. Slevin III, Environmental Services Director/Executive Liaison
PRESENTER: Kim DeFolo, Tacoma Water; Glen George, Tacoma Water
SUBJECT: Update on PFAS Regulations and Groundwater Supply
DATE: September 27, 2023

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

This presentation is for the Council's awareness. The presentation will provide an update to information that was presented in February 2023 about Tacoma Water's groundwater supply and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

BACKGROUND:

PFAS are human-made chemicals that have been used in a wide variety of consumer products; have been found in people, wildlife, and fish all over the world; and do not break down easily in the environment. The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed new regulations for PFAS in drinking water, and Tacoma Water is preparing to comply with the new regulations when they are finalized.

Tacoma Water is updating its Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) in early 2024, with an emphasis on groundwater supplies. The IRP will also take into consideration changing conditions related to compliance with PFAS regulations, impacts of the permanent closure of the WestRock mill, climate change, and other issues.

ISSUE:

This is an information briefing only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.