WORKING GROUP ON RELEASE-BASED CLEANUP REGULATIONS TOO MANY TO COUNTTH MEETING

REMARKS BY AGENCIES



REMARKS BY LEGISLATORS



Who Does the Cleanup?

Spill Response Contractors

All New Releases

All Existing Releases

New 22a-454 General Permittees

Certain Existing Releases

No Permit Required

Installation and maintenance of remedial systems (i.e., sparging, pump-and-treat)

Collecting Samples

Who "Closes" the Cleanup?

LEPs "Verify"

Any Release to the Land and Waters of the State "Spill Contractor"
PEPs
Certify

Certain New Releases

Home Heating Fuel Releases "In-House" PEPs Certify

Certain New
Releases
Created by
their
employer

Proposed Statutory Changes

22a-134rr & 22a-134

"effective date"



22a-6u

SEH notification



22a-133y

voluntary program



Replace "Adoption" with "Effective Date"

Why? Necessary to provide time between adoption date and effective date



§ 22a-134(1)

For the purposes of this section and sections 22a-134a to 22a-134e, inclusive, and sections 22a-134h and 22a-134i:

(1) "Transfer of establishment" means any transaction or proceeding, on or before the <u>effective</u> date <u>of</u> regulations [are] adopted pursuant to section 22a-134tt, through which an establishment undergoes a change in ownership, but does not mean:



§ 22a-133rr(a)

(a) Any person who creates or maintains a release to the land and waters of the state on or after the date when regulations are first <u>effective after being</u> adopted pursuant to section 22a-134tt shall, upon discovery of such release: (1) Report the release, if such a report is required by the regulations adopted pursuant to section 22a-134tt, and (2) remediate any release to the standards identified in regulations adopted pursuant to section 22a-134tt. If any person fails to comply with the provisions of this section and section 22a-134tt, such person shall be liable for any costs incurred by the commissioner in accordance with section 22a-451, or costs incurred by any other person who contains or removes or otherwise mitigates the effects of such release in accordance with section 22a-452.



Why? Limit the scope of SHE Notifications to those releases not subject to the RBCRs

§ 22a-6u

Section 22a-6u of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (p) as follows (*Effective October* 1, 2025):

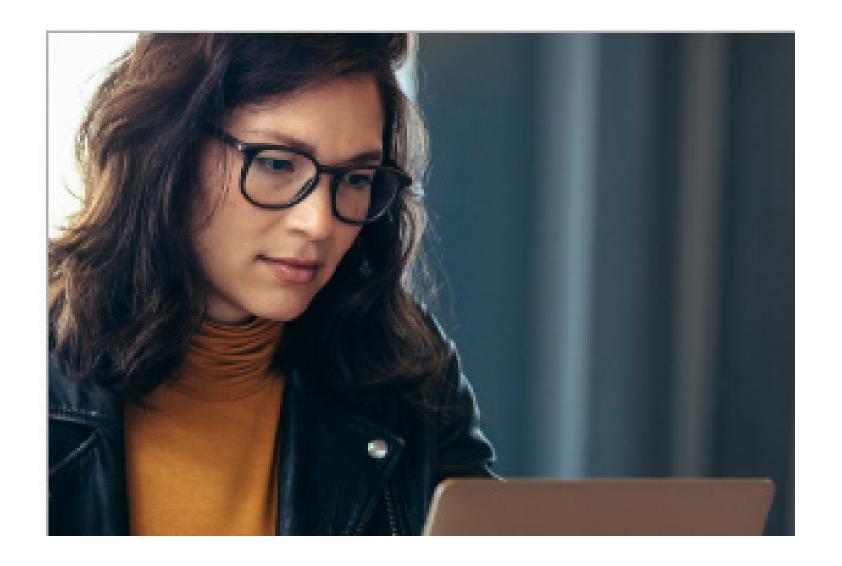
(NEW) (p) On and after the effective date of regulations adopted pursuant to section 22a-134tt, the requirements of this section shall apply only to releases that, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-134rr, are not subject to the requirements of 22a-134qq to 22a-134xx, inclusive.



Why? Replace the "voluntary remediation program" in 22a-133y with a voluntary "parcel-wide" remediation program that works with, and provides certain relief from, the RBCRs

- Eligible if initiate a parcel-wide investigation before discovery of any release, or after a release is discovered
- 2 years for Tier Characterization
- Group releases for tiering into tier 2
- One, small annual fee
- Longer time for cleanup
- Liability relief (22a-134vv(b) & 22a-133aa covenant not to sue)

Online
Interface for the Cleanup
Program



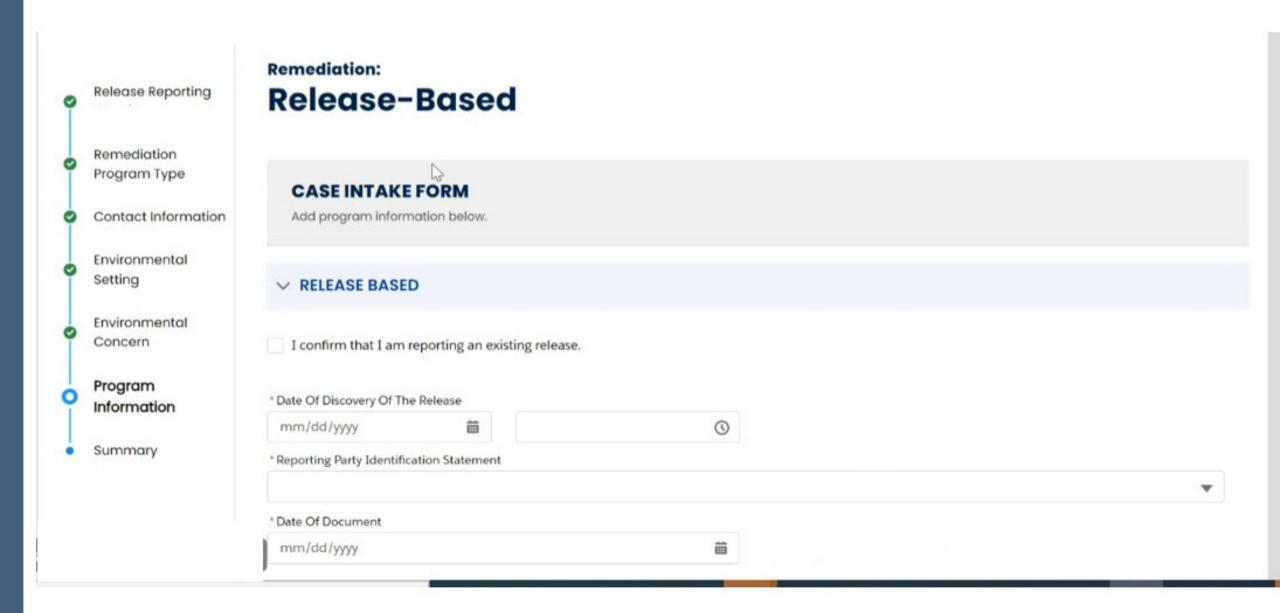
Release, Environmental Assessment, and Cleanup Tracker ("REACT") is an online platform launching Summer 2025

- Online tracking for Release Based Cleanup Regulations and other cleanup programs to harmonize "One Cleanup" approach
- Easy compliance tracking with automated workflows and status views, as well as breadcrumbs to show clients where they are in process
- Advanced online portal for submittals and requests, with automated acknowledgments and due date notifications
- Consolidation of information related to cleanup milestones achieved, supporting economic development
- Ties together programs across DEEP units and platforms, including integration of Geographic Information System (GIS) layers to auto-populate and assess environmental setting

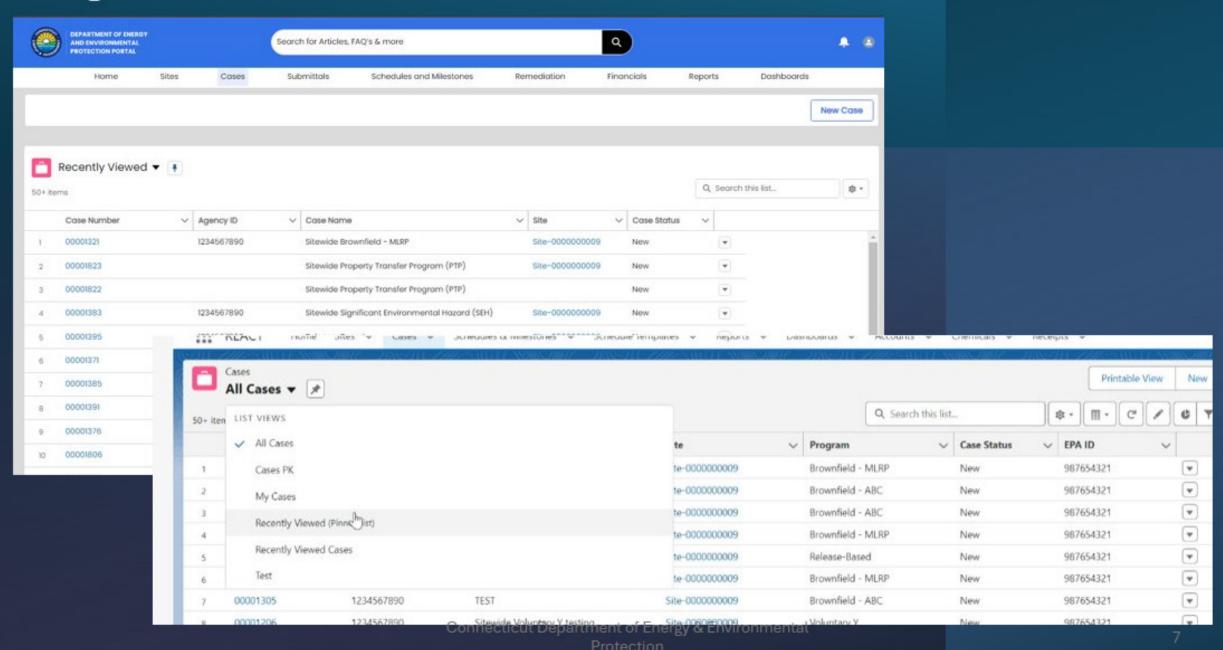
What's in it For You... REACT Elements in Response to Subcommittee Suggestions

- Public can run simple queries, and conduct searches
- Dashboards, case list views, and summary pages
- Only Registered Users can upload documents
- No fee to become a Registered User of the REACT system
- Registered Users can report existing releases, submit documents, and update information in the same platform
- Public and Users can view data on existing (historical) and emergent releases

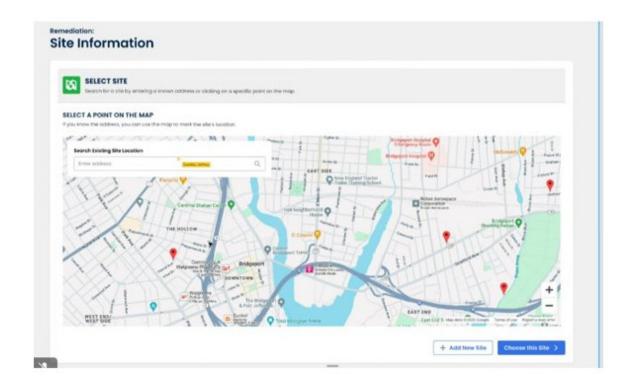
Registered Users can Report an Existing Release

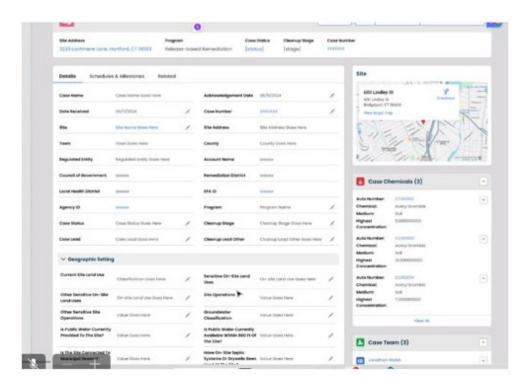


Registered users can review their associated cases

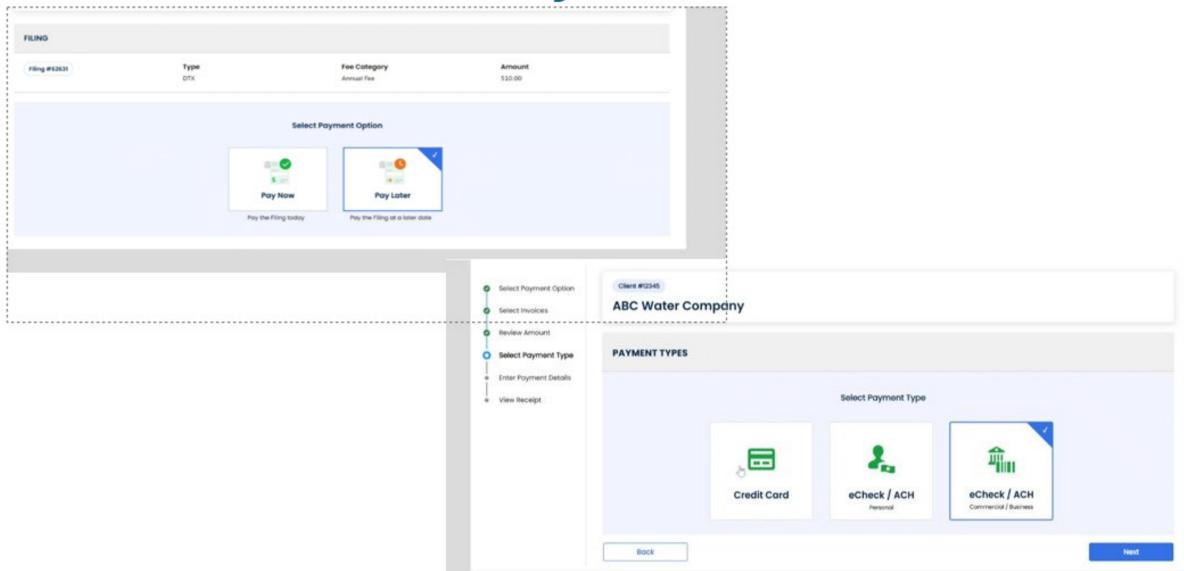


Geospatial Integration

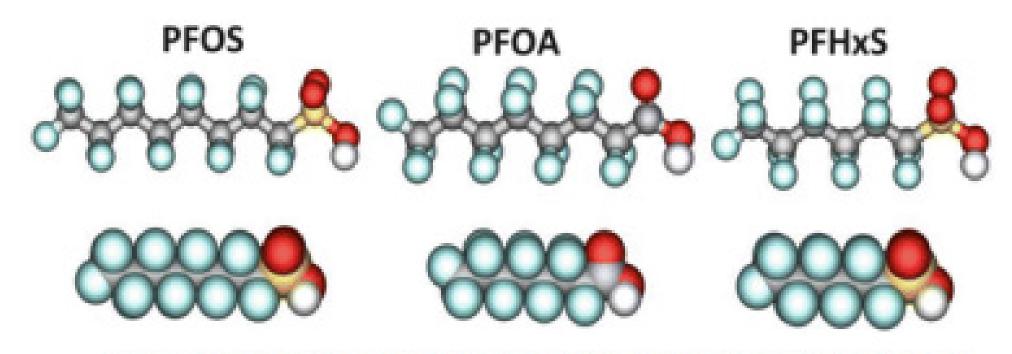




Online Payment of Fees

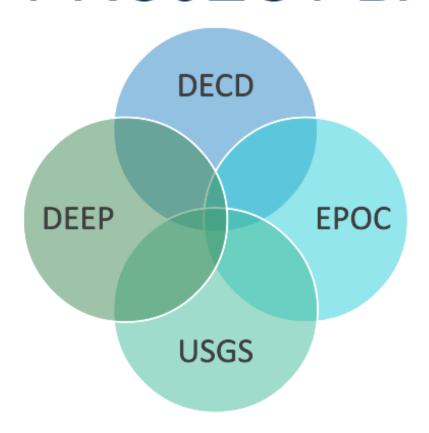


PFAS Soil Background Study



Examples of PFAS chemicals. This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed

PROJECT BACKGROUND



- S.B. 378 An Act Concerning a PFAS Background Data Study for the Purpose of Economic Development
 - Supported by EPOC, SWEP, CCM, and others
 - Raised by the Commerce Committee during 2024 session, but not brought to vote
- > \$1.0M ARPA Funding allocated to DECD for the purposes of conducting a PFAS background study.
 - DECD is lead; DEEP serving as scientific advisor
 - EPOC review of proposal before contract execution
 - USGS to conduct work; contributing ~\$100K match

ANTHROPOGENIC PFAS SOIL STUDY

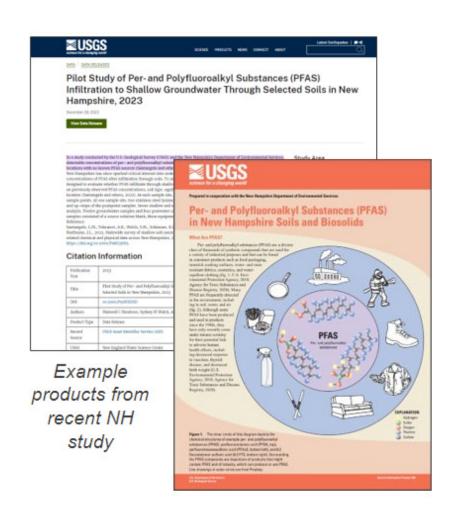
Project Objective:

Conduct a science-based, technically defensible anthropogenic background PFAS soil study in Connecticut

- Utilize a rigorous, reproducible design and methods combined with low-level laboratory reporting and integrated QAQC
- Interpret study results to identify statewide variability, and potential risk factors for high concentrations

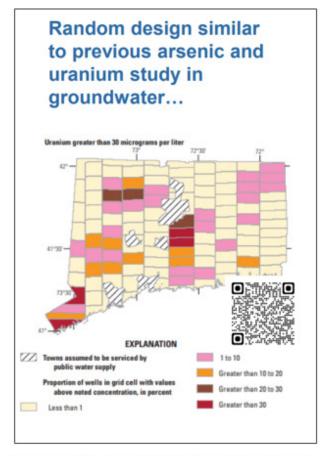
Project Deliverables:

- USGS data release
- 2. Published, peer-reviewed report



PROJECT APPROACH

- 100 sample locations, statewide
 - Stratified-random, equal-area, grid-based design
 - Target minimally disturbed areas
- Shallow soil focus (0- to 6-inch depths)
 - 50 sites also collect 6- to 12-inch samples
 - 6 sites also collect down to 36-inches
- Composited samples.
 - Subset of sites where evaluate individual samples for PFAS and compare to composites
- Standard QAQC samples (duplicates, blanks) also collected
- Analyze for PFAS, TOPA, TOC, pH, particle size, solids, metals





DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

- Jan–Dec 2025 obtain access permissions, collect and analyze samples
- Mid-2026 data release and draft report shared. (Project data and updates released as soon as available
- Early 2027 Final scientific report release. Requires internal USGS review and quality control process

Design Notes:

- Designed in response to set budget and desired duration
- Allows for comparability to other states
- Allows for implementation of additional studies (e.g., groundwater), if funding is identified



POTENTIAL RBCP DATA USE

DEEP is considering using study results to develop a similar approach as that developed in 22a-134tt-2(f) for naturally occurring metals

 22a-134tt-2(f) allows for use of increasingly elevated background concentrations with increasing level of sampling effort and numbers of samples collected Refresher on Naturally Occurring Metals in 22a-134tt-2(f)

Option	Number of Additional Samples Needed	Background Concentration	Implementation Authority
Option 1	None	Low Value in 22a-134tt-2(f) Table	LEP-implemented
Option 2	Minimum 3	Must be ≤High Value in 22a- 134tt-2(f) Table	LEP-implemented
Option 3	Minimum 5	Must be ≤RDEC	LEP-implemented
Option 4	Minimum 7	May be >RDEC	Commissioner Approval

We are happy to take your questions ...

https://portal.ct.gov/deep/remediation--site-clean-up/comprehensive-evaluation-and-transformation/release-based-cleanup-regulations-formal-regulation-adoption

Please reach out to the Department at