



January 7, 2026

Dear Paulsboro PFAS Health Study Participant,

Thank you for participating in the Paulsboro PFAS Health Study. We are reaching out to share some new preliminary study results with you. We will be sharing only aggregate (group) results, not individual results, and no personal identifying information will be shared.

The chemicals measured in blood samples that were provided by most study participants from April 2022 to May 2023 included “chloroperfluoropolyether carboxylates” (ClPFPECA), a type of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). These ClPFPECA were measured in addition to the 7 PFAS measured in the main study, which we have reported on previously.

The blood test results in the table below show that approximately 90 percent or more of study participants had detectable levels of two of these compounds, ClPFPECA-0,1 and ClPFPECA-0,2, in their blood. **It should be noted that we do not know if the levels of ClPFPECA found in blood of study participants increase the risk of any health effects.** In studies of workers exposed to relatively high levels, ClPFPECA have been associated with several health effects, including increased cholesterol and liver enzymes, and changes in the immune and endocrine systems. However, the blood levels of ClPFPECA in these studies were hundreds to thousands of times higher than the ClPFPECA levels measured in the blood of Paulsboro PFAS Health Study participants.

In the Table below, Column 1 lists the name of each ClPFPECA. Column 2 is the percentage of study participants who had a detectable level the ClPFPECA. Column 3 is the mean (average) level of the ClPFPECA for all blood samples in parts per billion (ppb). Column 4 is the median (50th percentile), meaning half of participants had levels below this value and half were above. Column 5 is the 95th percentile, meaning 95% of participants had levels at or below this value and 5% were above.

Blood (plasma) ClPFPECA concentrations (parts per billion, ppb) of 643 Paulsboro PFAS Health Study participants				
Specific ClPFPECA compound	% with Detectable Levels	Mean (ppb)	Median/50th percentile	95th percentile
ClPFPECA-0,1	86	0.05	0.056	0.48
ClPFPECA-0,2	92	0.01	0.010	0.14
ClPFPECA-1,1	8.4	-	<LOD	0.013
ClPFPECA-1,2	4.7	-	<LOD	<LOD
ClPFPECA-0,3	3.9	-	<LOD	<LOD
ClPFPECA-0,4	0.4	-	<LOD	<LOD

< LOD means less than limit of detection (LOD), or not detectable. The LODs varied by compound.

For comparison, the levels of the ClPFPECA were lower than the level of the PFNA compound that we previously reported to study participants. The mean PFNA level was 0.77 parts per billion (ppb). The mean ClPFPECA-0,1 level was 0.05 ppb, or about 15 times lower than the mean PFNA level.

The ClPFPECAs are not measured routinely by laboratories. The levels of these compounds in participants' blood were measured for research purposes with an experimental but validated method in a non-clinical laboratory. These blood levels do not represent clinical test results.

According to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, the ClPFPECAs were used as industrial processing aids and discharged to the environment by Solvay Specialty Polymers U.S.A., an industrial facility in West Deptford, NJ, from about 1996 to 2021. Potential sources of exposure to ClPFPECAs in and near Paulsboro are not fully understood, and there are many ways that people can potentially be exposed to these chemicals. ClPFPECAs have been discharged to air and to water. ClPFPECAs were detected in private wells (McCord et al., 2020) soil (Washington et al., 2020), vegetation and sediment (Davis et al. 2003) near Solvay's West Deptford facility. We do not know if the ClPFPECAs are present in the ground water source for Paulsboro's drinking water. While the treated drinking water has not yet been tested for ClPFPECAs, it is believed that the granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment in place since 2016 is likely to remove these compounds from drinking water as it removes other PFAS.

At this time, we have no specific recommendations for actions to reduce personal exposure to ClPFPECAs that may be present at very low concentrations in the environment in the Paulsboro vicinity.

You are invited to attend a public meeting to review these and other results of the ongoing Paulsboro PFAS study on **January 15, 2026, at 6:00PM at Paulsboro High School.**

Sincerely,



Robert Laumbach
Principal Investigator, Paulsboro PFAS Health Study.

References

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NJDEP Fact Sheet, Ground Water Quality Standard for Chloroperfluoropolyether Carboxylates (ClPFPECAs). January 2022 <https://www.nj.gov/dep/wms/bears/docs/ClPFPECAs-factsheet2021Final.pdf>

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