

**Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG)  
Meeting Summary – October 27, 2021**

<b>CPWG Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Marianne Zwicklbauer	X		
Emily Marpe	X		
Loreen Hackett	X		
Barbara Lancour		X	
Brian Bushner	X		
Eric Sheffer			X
Mark Surdam	X		
Rob Allen	X		
Pat Dailey			X
David Lukas			X
Michael Hickey			X
<b>Facilitator</b>			
Nancy Pattarini, The Paige Group	X		
Carrie McMurray, The Paige Group	X		
<b>Presenters</b>			
Dr. Erin Bell, University of Albany	X		

**Note:** The October 27, 2021 public meeting of the CPWG was conducted via an online video/conference platform due to the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. A press release reminder of the meeting date was issued to local media. A meeting date reminder and log-in directions were emailed to all community members who have signed up on the CPWG Listserv. Meeting-related materials may be found on the Hoosick Area CPWG website [www.hoosickareacpwg.org](http://www.hoosickareacpwg.org) and on the NYSDEC website <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html>

**Discussion Summary:**

- I. Welcome – The Paige Group
  - a. Facilitator – The Paige Group
    - i. The Facilitator provided an overview of meeting protocol for online participation
    - ii. The Facilitator introduced CPWG Co-chairs Loreen Hackett and Brian Bushner
  - b. Co-Chairs
    - i. The Co-chairs provided an overview of the meeting agenda
- II. NYSDOH/University of Albany Update – Following are excerpts from the discussion
  - a. Multi-Site Study of Human Health Effects of Exposure to PFAS in Drinking Water
    - i. Conducted by University at Albany School of Public Health and NYSDOH
    - ii. Funded by the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR), division of the CDC
    - iii. Participating Communities
      1. Newburgh and Hoosick Falls, New York
      2. Communities near UC Irvine Medical Center, California
      3. El Paso County, Colorado
      4. Hyannis and Ayer, Massachusetts

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5. Parchment/Cooper Township and North Kent County, Michigan
  6. Gloucester County, New Jersey
  7. Montgomery and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania
- b. What the study involves:
- i. Adults and children in Newburgh and Hoosick Falls will be invited to participate if they meet eligibility requirements.
  - ii. Study team plans to enroll 1,000 adults and 300 children.
  - iii. If eligible, adults and children will attend a one-time clinic visit. They will give a blood sample, a urine sample, and answer a health questionnaire.
  - iv. Children will also complete cognitive and behavioral screenings (possibly on a return visit).
  - v. All participants will receive a results report and reimbursement for each portion of the clinic visit they complete.
- c. Timeline
- i. Study team will host information sessions leading up to the mailing of invitation letters.
    1. Yard signs, posters, flyers, postcard reminders will also be distributed and/or mailed throughout the community
  - ii. Invitation letters will be mailed beginning mid-November.
  - iii. Clinic visits will begin in December 2021 and last through late spring 2022.
  - iv. ATSDR estimates it may take up to two years to complete the full laboratory analysis and mail individual results, but there will be communication throughout this process.
- d. Eligibility
- i. An adult aged 18 years or older who
    1. Lived in Newburgh or the Hoosick Falls area and used drinking water with documented PFAS contamination between 2005 and March 2016 in the Hoosick Falls area OR between 2005 and May 2016 in the City of Newburgh
    2. Were exposed through drinking water
    3. Were not exposed through environment or occupation
      - a. Worked as firefighter; trained as firefighter using AFFF foam
      - b. Worked at an industrial facility that used PFAS chemicals in the manufacturing process
  - ii. A child aged 4 through 17 years who has parent or guardian's permission and
    1. Lived in Newburgh or Hoosick Falls and used drinking water with documented PFAS contamination between 2005 and March 2016 in the Hoosick Falls area OR between 2005 and May 2016 in the City of Newburgh
    2. Was born to and/or breastfed by a mother who meets the adult eligibility criteria
- e. Recruitment
- i. Invitation packets with instructions to potentially eligible households in the Hoosick Falls area and the City of Newburgh beginning in November 2021.

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- ii. Potential participants will be asked to contact our study staff and complete an eligibility screen.
- iii. Invitation letters will be in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole in Newburgh, and Hoosick Falls, if needed.
- iv. To finalize enrollment and schedule a clinic visit, call: (833)-732-7697.
- v. Staff will also follow-up with those who have received invitations.
- f. Clinic appointments
  - i. Once an appointment is scheduled, study team will mail a clinic appointment packet
    - 1. Appointment Reminder Card
    - 2. Informed Consent Materials
      - a. In addition to the main study, the New York Site will ask for consent to collect an additional blood sample and to receive access to stored blood samples from the DOH biomonitoring program
    - 3. Study Fact Sheet
    - 4. Appointment Prep Infographic
    - 5. Urine Collection Supplies and Instructions
      - a. Urine samples will be stored until lab methods are developed and the scientific evidence shows which PFAS tests will yield useful results
- g. Clinic locations
  - i. Newburgh – 327 Fullerton Road
  - ii. Hoosick Falls – 140 Main Street
- h. Clinic visits
  - i. For Adults, the clinic visit will last approximately 1.5 hours, including the following:
    - 1. Sign-in
    - 2. Urine sample drop off
    - 3. Height and weight measurements
    - 4. Blood pressure check
    - 5. Blood sample collection
    - 6. Questionnaire completion, including residential, work, and medical history
  - ii. For Children, the clinic visit will also include a neurobehavioral assessment, lasting 1.5 to 2 hours. This can be scheduled on a different day, if needed. It will include:
    - 1. Memory games
    - 2. Sorting items
    - 3. Solving puzzles
  - iii. We will also ask for consent to access medical and school records
- i. Participant gift cards
  - i. \$25 gift card for blood pressure, and blood and urine sample collection
  - ii. \$25 gift card for questionnaire completion
  - iii. \$25 gift card for child/parent completion of the neurobehavioral assessment

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- j. Clinic results
    - i. We will send samples to a lab to analyze for PFAS levels and health measures.
    - ii. We will mail you a lab report with your blood results, including the following for both adults and kids:
      - 1. Cholesterol
      - 2. Thyroid hormones and sex hormones (in children)
      - 3. Kidney function
      - 4. Immune system
      - 5. Liver enzymes
      - 6. Lead, mercury, manganese, and cadmium levels (New York Site only)
    - iii. The report will also include urine analysis, including:
      - 1. PFAS levels
      - 2. Kidney function
    - iv. Participants are welcome to share this report with their primary care physician.
  - k. Use of findings
    - i. The study will help us understand how drinking PFAS-contaminated water affects human health.
    - ii. The researchers will provide advice and assistance to medical professionals in each community to help with interpreting results.
    - iii. The researchers will provide a summary of the aggregate study findings to each community.
  - l. Contact information
    - i. Text: 518-898-0276
    - ii. Email: PFAS@albany.edu
    - iii. Call Toll-Free: 1-833-732-7697
    - iv. Website: <https://www.albany.edu/sph/pfas>
    - v. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NYSPFASHealthStudy>
  - m. CPWG Comments/Questions
    - i. C: All related health studies and literature can be found on the website.
  - n. Public Comments/Questions
    - i. None
- III. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business
- a. Hoosick Area CPWG Co-Chairs Report: CPWG is currently working on a number of current and emerging topics/issues with state agencies
    - i. NYSDEC
      - 1. New water supply
        - a. Request that other well sites south of proposed well sites will be addressed in the ROD
          - i. ROD is expected to be released before the holidays
      - 2. Annual Guideline Concentrations (AGC)
        - a. CPWG seeking clarification on proposed Annual Guideline Concentration (AGC)
      - 3. DAR-1 Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Ambient Air Contaminants Under 6NYCRR Part 212
        - a. [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/air\\_pdf/dar1proposed.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/air_pdf/dar1proposed.pdf)

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- b. CPWG requesting presentation at future meeting
  - 4. Biosampling study
    - a. Collection completed; presentation expected early 2022
  - 5. Air deposition study
    - a. Beginning phase 2
- ii. NYSDOH/Water Quality Council
  - 1. 10/27/21 meeting link:  
[https://www.saratogian.com/2021/10/18/states-drinking-water-quality-council-recommends-designating-7-pfas-as-emerging-contaminants/?utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_content=tw-SaratogianNews&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=socialflow](https://www.saratogian.com/2021/10/18/states-drinking-water-quality-council-recommends-designating-7-pfas-as-emerging-contaminants/?utm_source=twitter.com&utm_content=tw-SaratogianNews&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=socialflow)
- iii. EPA
  - 1. CPWG seeking status/process of adding PFTE on TRI
    - a. PTFE will not be added
  - 2. PFAS reporting rule
    - a. St. Gobain did not report
  - 3. Gen X assessment released
    - a. Requested list of related studies in progress
  - 4. Strategic Roadmap on PFAS
    - a. Webinar held 10/27/21; next one will be held on November 2. RSVP to the webinar using the following link:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/webinar-pfas-strategic-roadmap-epas-commitments-to-action-2021-2024-registration-193150888507>
- iv. Other national and NYS activities relevant to Hoosick Falls
  - 1. Legislative and advocacy activities
    - a. Environmental Rights Amendment  
[https://ballotpedia.org/New\\_York\\_Proposal\\_2\\_Environmental\\_Rights\\_Amendment\\_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_2_Environmental_Rights_Amendment_(2021))

**IV. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business**

- a. Meeting Summaries posted on [www.hoosickareacpwg.org](http://www.hoosickareacpwg.org)
- b. 2021 Public Meeting Schedule – Meeting Location/Format TBD
  - i. PUBLIC: Tuesday 12/14/21
- c. Full 2022 meeting schedule to be posted in the near future