

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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Portsmouth announces upgraded water filtration at Pease Tradeport

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The City of Portsmouth is pleased to announce the installation of two granular activated carbon vessels (GACs) to filter and remove perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) from the Harrison and Smith Wells at the existing Grafton Road water facility at the Pease Tradeport.

Following the detection of PFCs above the EPA’s Preliminary Health Advisory levels in the Haven Well and its subsequent shut down in May 2014, the City of Portsmouth and the United States Air Force established a water treatment plan for the operation of the Harrison and Smith Wells. An initial pilot study was completed in June 2016 to verify GAC treatment water quality.

Moving forward, frequent sampling, filter monitoring and operational requirements from the Harrison and Smith Wells’ demonstration project will be evaluated for six months. Information from both the pilot and the demonstration study will then be used by the City’s consultant to revise the final design parameters for treatment of the Haven Well.

“We are very pleased to have executed this first step in implementing long term treatment for the Pease Tradeport water system,” said Deputy Public Works Director Brian Goetz. “This installation is a significant component for the eventual reactivation and treatment of the Haven Well.”

Final data and design plans for the Haven treatment system are planned for Spring 2017, with construction of this system anticipated to commence in the Fall of 2017. The Haven Well design will also include contingency planning and treatment retrofits to treat other contaminants if necessary.

For more information, please contact Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Public Works at 766-1420 or Al Pratt, Water Resources Manager at 520-0622, or visit www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks (select "Water").