



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. Nygren Responds to PFAS Sampling Results

Madison--On Monday, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) released per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) surface water test results showing elevated levels of these chemicals in creeks in Dane and Monroe Counties. In response, Rep. Nygren (R – Marinette) released the following statement:

“Silver Creek in Monroe County and Starkweather Creek in Dane County are over 100 miles apart, but they are linked by a common thread: immediate proximity to airports where firefighting foams containing PFAS were used. The use and uncontained spread of these foams contaminated the environment near my hometown of Marinette and a growing list of locations across the state.”

“Though laudable for their performance extinguishing flammable liquid fires, the PFAS chemicals in these foams persist indefinitely in the environment and can be harmful if consumed. In response to this issue, I authored bipartisan legislation to greatly curb the use of these foams with the goal of reducing the contamination they cause.”

Assembly Bill 323 would generally prohibit the use of “Class B” firefighting foams containing PFAS. Under the bill, the foam could continue to be used in emergency firefighting operations. Additionally, foam testing may occur, but only if proper containment, treatment, storage, and disposal methods, as approved by DNR, are in place.

“I am glad the DNR undertook this sampling work earlier this year and continues to investigate PFAS contamination sites throughout the state.”

<https://dnr.wi.gov/news/releases/article/?id=4899>

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