



## **Hicksville Water District**

### **Compliance Deferral for**

### **1,4 dioxane, PFOA and PFOS Treatment FAQs**

#### ***What is a compliance deferral?***

- New York State has allowed water providers who have taken action to treat for emerging contaminants up to two additional years with a one year extension to come into compliance with the new regulations
- Provides an opportunity to communicate with residents about water quality while allowing the time to make the necessary infrastructure investments
- Requires posting of water quality data above and beyond what is already required to our website for all to see

#### ***Did the Hicksville Water District apply for and receive a deferral?***

Yes, the Hicksville Water District has received a compliance deferral from New York State allowing the District additional time to install the necessary infrastructure upgrades to treat for 1,4-dioxane. The two-year deferral process and one year renewal is only available to those water providers throughout the state that have shown significant progress in installing the now required advanced oxidation process (AOP) treatment system for the removal of 1,4-dioxane to meet the newly established maximum contaminant levels (MCL).

The District already successfully commissioned AOP treatment at our Plants 1, 4, 5 and 9. Construction of a wellhead treatment system is underway at our Plant 8. Plant 8 is presently offline.

#### ***Is my water safe to drink?***

Absolutely, the District has been working on solutions to this issue well before the state started the process to regulate 1,4-dioxane. It is our driving principle to provide our residents with the highest quality water possible, period. The state's action levels are extremely conservative in nature so your water remains safe to consume while we complete this herculean effort to improve our already high-quality water for future generations." According to the New York State Health Department, "The MCLs are set well below levels known to cause health effects in animal studies. Therefore, consuming water with PFOA, PFOS or 1,4-dioxane at the level detected does not pose a significant health risk. Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses."

We have made operational adjustments to mitigate exposure while infrastructure construction occurs. Routine distribution system testing to confirm mitigation measures are effective



***What actions has the District taken to treat for 1,4 dioxane, PFOA and PFOS ?***

To make the capital improvements necessary to install AOP treatment at each of our impacted well sites, the District is in the middle of making a more than \$70 million investment. Despite the challenges of the pandemic and current supply chain issues, the Hicksville Water District has undertaken immediate and determined action to install treatment systems for the removal of 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFAS at all impacted facilities in excess of current regulatory limits. Treatment systems have been successfully commissioned at our Plants 1, 4, 5 and 9. Construction of a wellhead treatment system is underway at our Plant 8. The impacted Plant 8 supply wells have been out of service since September 2021. The project is scheduled to be completed by September 2023. Plans are underway for the proactive construction of AOP treatment at two other impacted Plant sites (Plants 6 and 11) that have detectible levels of 1,4-dioxane that are presently below current regulatory limits.

***How do the treatment systems work?***

AOP treatment, when coupled with granular activated carbon (GAC), is the only proven method, allowable by the NYS DOH, to rid the water supply of 1,4-dioxane. This treatment combination is also capable of removing perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), should detections of these contaminants ever near the State's new maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). AOP treatment works by mixing an oxidant, in this case hydrogen peroxide, with water and running it through ultraviolet light. This makes a chemical reaction that destroys the 1,4-dioxane molecules. The water then runs through the GAC filters which removes any remaining hydrogen peroxide and impurities prior to entering the public distribution system.

***Where can I learn more about the deferral and the District's efforts?***

To view the entire deferral notice as well as all of the information on emerging contaminants from the New York State Health Department, please visit [www.hicksvillewater.com](http://www.hicksvillewater.com). To stay up-to-date on our progress to implement treatment, please follow us on Facebook or sign up to receive email updates by using the popup on our homepage.

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