

EPA announces 2 billion USD available for emerging contaminants in drinking water

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The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of 2 billion USD in funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to address emerging contaminants in drinking water. The funding will be available to communities via grants through EPA's Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant Program. "Too many American communities, especially those that are small, rural, or underserved, are suffering from exposure to PFAS and other harmful contaminants in their drinking water," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests 5 billion USD over five years to reduce the levels of contaminants like of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water. This initial allotment of 2 billion USD to states and territories can be used to prioritize infrastructure and source water treatment for pollutants, like PFAS and other emerging contaminants, and to conduct water quality testing.

EPA is also working to propose National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) for PFAS in the coming weeks. The agency anticipates finalizing the rule by the end of 2023.

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