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Sent: Friday, 14 December 2018 5:16 PM
To: DL:CFS All Staff <DLCFSAllStaff@cfs.sa.gov.au>; 'DL:CFS Volunteer' <DLCFS@sacfsvolunteer.org.au>
Subject: Update on the PFAS Foam - MFS Largs Fire Station

Greetings,

In light of current media reports into the MFS investigations of PFAS foam at Largs fire station, I want to update you on what CFS has done in regards to the use of this foam.

PFAS is present in some B Class foam products used for firefighting against hydrocarbon fires such as petrochemical fuels and oils. It is not present in the A Class foam we use for fighting bushfires through ground crews and fire bombers.

The current CFS contracts for B Class foam stipulates that the foam compound must not contain PFAS. CFS has written to all our foam suppliers requiring them to declare and certify that their foams do not contain PFAS. All suppliers have advised us their foams do not contain PFAS.

The State Training Centre at Brukunga and our Naracoorte training centre have not used PFAS foam in training exercises for more than 15 years. Ground water at these training centres is regularly tested and has not returned any significant PFAS results. This testing will continue.

South Australia was the first state to ban potentially hazardous fluorinated firefighting foams on 30 January 2018, this was put into place by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

Before this time CFS conducted a recovery and disposal program for all B Class foam concentrates containing PFAS from brigades and regions in conjunction with Cleanaway. Since that time, CFS has also recalled all foam extinguishers from the heavy and light vehicle fleets.

If members find this type of foam still in their stations, please contact your Region immediately and arrange for it to be properly disposed. Brigades should not accept "donations" of foam concentrates or foam extinguishers for disposal. The cost of disposal is expensive and CFS is not funded to recover and dispose of other people's PFAS foams.

The results of testing for PFAS presence at MFS Largs Station are not available yet. CFS is working with MFS to understand the potential effects of PFAS on people's health. We will continue to update you with additional information once the results from the testing at Largs station is known.

If you have any queries relating to this matter or others, please contact your Region.

Thanks
Greg

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