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I am a homeowner in the Beachwood Bay Condominium community in Cutler, Maine where all of our wells recently tested positive for PFAS contamination. Our condo community was a former Naval base and it is believed that the wells in this area were most likely contaminated from foam the Navy used for firefighting training years ago.

At least 9 of our 23 wells servicing our 62 condo. units tested over the EPA recommended guidelines of 70 ppt (mine is over 200 for PFOA and PFOS combined). The Navy is currently providing bottled water to those homeowners that tested over the 70 level and is working on both an interim and a long-term solution but it will likely be years before a long-term solution is found. In the meantime, we've been told not to drink or cook with our well water.

It is the 70 ppt guideline that concerns myself and many other homeowners here. There seems to be little to no scientific evidence that this is actually a safe limit and that is very concerning. In fact, I found a few articles indicating some studies have shown that levels lower than 70 ppt have resulted in serious health issues.

My neighbors that tested well below the 70 level are afraid to drink or cook with their water so they are using bottled water at their own expense since the Navy will only supply to those at or above the 70 level. The Navy claims their hands are tied because the State of Maine does not have a set standard for safe drinking water so they are deferring to the EPA guidelines and that they are only authorized to take care of those wells that tested over the 70 ppt.

No one wants to hear the word "contaminated" associated with their drinking water, regardless of the level of contamination. Our neighboring states of New Hampshire and Vermont and New Jersey have set their own State Standards well below 70 ppt, in fact they are all in the 20 ppt range. It is my hope that Maine will follow in their footsteps and set a state MCL of 20 or less! Thank you.