

March 7, 2024

The Honorable Richard Revesz  
Administrator  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
U.S. Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Administrator Revesz,

On behalf of the Texas Association of Business (TAB), I write today to request that the Biden administration take a consistent, measured, and scientifically sound approach to regulating per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

TAB is the Texas State Chamber and state designated affiliate to the National Association of Manufacturers, representing companies of every size and industry. TAB works in a bipartisan manner to advance a pro-business climate, delivering solutions to the challenges affecting Texas employers. For over a century, TAB has worked alongside businesses and our chamber partners to advocate for the wellbeing of our member companies before officials in Texas and Washington, D.C.

PFAS are used in a wide variety of applications, including critical components needed to achieve the President's stated priorities around clean energy technologies and domestic semiconductor manufacturing. Among their many uses, this family of chemicals is used in batteries, electric grid infrastructure, semiconductors, automotive equipment, and virtually all sources of energy in our power sector, including solar panels and wind turbines. In many cases, there is no alternative to PFAS in the manufacturing process. Accordingly, regulations on this topic should be achievable and allow for reasonable flexibility.

Unfortunately, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current regulatory proposal under the SDWA does not reflect a balanced or technically feasible approach to addressing PFAS. The EPA's proposed limits are below 10 parts per trillion (PPT). For comparison, a PPT is a single drop of water in an Olympic swimming pool, effectively setting an unachievable standard that will cost everyone billions of dollars to chase. Regulations set near zero are technologically and economically impossible to achieve. Limits at such low levels have the three-fold impact of raising prices for consumers across the country, threatening manufacturing supply chains, and imposing a severe financial burden on local communities and ratepayers who will foot the bill for cleanup efforts.

In fact, a report released last year from the [American Water Works Association](#) projected that potential regulatory compliance for just two of the six PFAS covered under the new rules would cost \$3.8 billion per year. As such, the proposed rule threatens to wreak havoc on Texas' supply chains and hurt the manufacturing of key products. The severity of the proposed regulations will mean higher prices for everything from community water and waste systems to medical treatments. The onslaught of regulations facing the industry is putting at risk new investment, slowing hiring, and reducing innovation on products critical to everyday life.

Given the significant economic consequences of the new SDWA regulations, we respectfully request that the EPA withdraw the current proposal to regulate PFAS under the SDWA and reissue a proposal that considers the real-world impacts on local taxpayers and manufacturers in Texas. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Hamer". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "H".

Glenn Hamer  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Texas Association of Business