[DATE]

The Honorable Michael Regan
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail code 1101A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

**RE: Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances National Primary Drinking Water Regulation**

My name is [Name of Mayor] and I represent the city of [Name of City]. I am writing to you on behalf of my constituents and to share information on the unintended impacts the proposed national drinking water regulation for PFOA and PFOS may have on the citizens, the utilities that serve them, and the financial resources in the city of [Name of City].

I recognize that PFOA/PFOS are persistent in the environment and that some studies suggest long-term exposure at increased doses may lead to negative health impacts. And I agree that elected officials and water utilities should prioritize PFOA/PFOS removal in those communities where high levels are detected. However, in many communities where only trace levels of PFOA/PFOS are detected, the high costs of PFAS detection and removal may divert resources away from more pressing drinking water infrastructure priorities.

PFAS treatment technologies are expensive and costly at scale. While we are thankful for the historic funding provided by the federal government to address PFAS, it unfortunately will not be enough. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) estimates the national annual cost of rule implementation to be between $2.5 and $3.2 billion annually. According to data collected by [Name of entity who collected data], it is estimated that the cost to test for, remove, maintain treatment of PFOS/PFOA in the city of [Name of City] would be [Estimated cost of PFAS treatment]. This does not include the costs that would be incurred by other community utilities including wastewater and stormwater systems, water management, landfills, and biosolids disposal. Ultimately, these costs will be borne upon local governments and passed down to community rate payers in the form of higher water bills. In my community alone, it is estimated that water bills could increase by as much as [Estimated range of rate increases].

It is almost certain that these regulations will have unintended consequences on both public water systems and local rate payers, increasing the costs and shifting resources away from other pressing public health concerns. In the city of [Name of City], some of our most pressing drinking water concerns include [Concerns such as aging or failing water infrastructure, limited staffing, microbial contamination, access to water, etc.]. It is important that we make decisions on a state and local level to determine what the greatest threats are to public health and prioritize funding to address those areas of highest need. Diverting millions of dollars away from pressing water issues in our community to comply with this new EPA mandate may be detrimental to small water systems and disadvantaged communities, many of whom are already struggling with limited resources, staff and funding.

Exorbitant costs, limited funding, practicality of implementation, and uncertainties related to the available science on PFAS have prompted me to write this letter in an effort to convey the negative impacts these regulations could have on the people of [Name of City]. I urge you to carefully consider these important issues before coming to a final ruling.

Sincerely,

[Name of Mayor]