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**August 13, 2014**

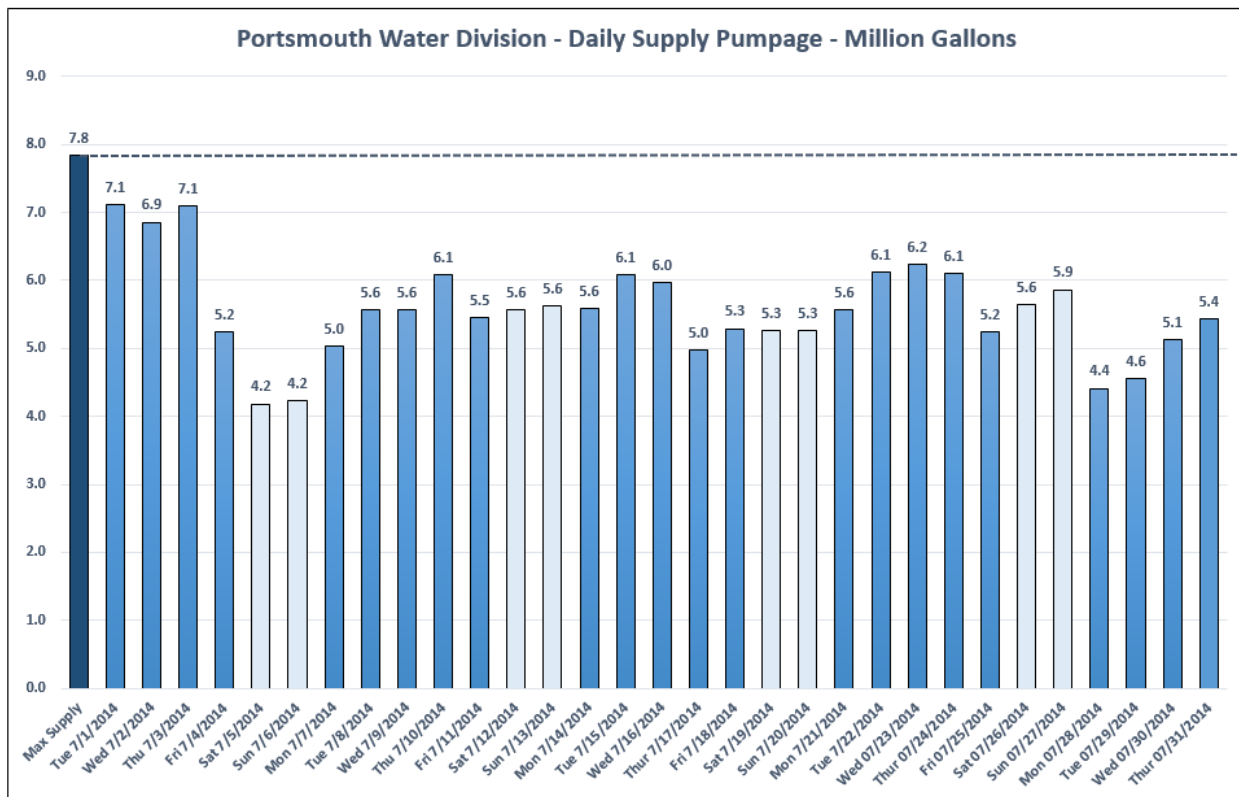
## **Pease International Tradeport Water System Update**

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The City of Portsmouth's Water Division has been actively working with the United States Air Force (Air Force), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) in response to the detection of elevated levels of the unregulated contaminant perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) from the Haven Well, one of three wells that serves the Pease International Tradeport and the New Hampshire Air National Guard base at Pease. PFOS is one of a class of chemicals known as PFCs or perfluorochemicals. Because the level of PFOS exceeded the "provisional health advisory" set by the EPA, the well was shut down by the City of Portsmouth on May 12, 2014 and since that time it has been physically disconnected from the system. A number of actions have been taken by the project team. They include the following:

### **Water System Operations**

The Pease Water System water demands are currently being met by supply from the other two Pease wells, the Harrison and Smith wells, supplemented by water boosted from the City of Portsmouth pressure zone. Overall water system demands for the combined Pease/Portsmouth water system have been met by the combined resources of the system's surface water supply and eight other wells. Water demands were very high early in the month when the weather was hot and dry and customers were irrigating. They have gone down since that time. System operators continue to track water system demands on a daily basis to assure that our supply meets demand. The following graphic provides a summary of the July 2014 water system pumpage.



## Water Quality Monitoring

The Air Force’s consultant has been performing continual sampling of the water supply wells in the system near the Haven Well. The attached “Memorandum for Public Distribution” summarizes the sample results through July 8, 2014. Additional memorandums will be prepared by the Air Force to continue to provide public information regarding the water quality of these wells. In addition to the water supply wells, the Air Force’s consultant is sampling other monitoring wells in the surrounding area to track the aquifer and monitor for any PFCs moving toward the supply wells. To date, all detected levels of PFCs of the surrounding area are well below the provisional health standards.

## Replacement of the Haven Well Supply

The City’s water staff have been working with DES, the Pease Development Authority, and the Air Force regarding the next steps toward replacing the Haven Well water supply. The City and the Air Force are developing a Memorandum of Agreement to have the Air Force fund the cost of preliminary hydrogeologic studies of potential new well sites to replace the volume previously obtained from the Haven Well. The Haven Well has a long history as a water supply source for both the City of Portsmouth and the Pease area. Use of this well dates back to the 1870’s when the City acquired the rights to the Haven Springs. The Air Force took over control and use of this well as a water supply source for the Pease Air Base in 1953. It was transferred back to the Pease Development Authority in the 1990’s and remained an active water supply source until it was

shut down this year. Past records and data from the Haven well show that it was capable of supplying a daily flow of approximately 0.6 to 1.0 million gallons.

### **Further Updates and Information**

The City and the Air Force intend to provide additional monthly updates. This information will be distributed electronically on the City of Portsmouth's website in the Department of Public Work's "Water" section. If anyone needs additional information or has questions contact Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Public Works at 766-1420.