

Dated: February 14, 2025.

**Carlos D. Clay,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2025-02933 Filed 2-20-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0454; EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0504; FRL-12587-02-OA]

**Two Actions Published by the Environmental Protection Agency With Comment Periods That Close February 24, 2025, and March 17, 2025; Notice of Comment Period Extensions**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notices; extension of comment periods.

**SUMMARY:** This document extends the comment period for two notices published by the Environmental

Protection Agency in the **Federal Register** on December 26, 2024, and January 15, 2025.

**DATES:** The comment periods for notice FRL 12023-01-OW (FR 2024-30637) (89 FR 105041, December 26, 2024) and notice FRL-12451-01-OW (FR 2025-00734) (90 FR 3859, January 15, 2025) are extended. Comments for FRL 12023-01-OW now must be received on or before April 25, 2025. Comments for FRL-12451-01-OW now must be received on or before April 16, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, identified by appropriate Docket ID number listed in the table below by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov/> (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. *Instructions:* Comments should be submitted to the original docket for the notice specified in the table in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document. All submissions

received must include the Docket ID No. for the original rulemaking as listed in the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including personal information provided.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Nickerson, Director, Office of Regulatory Policy and Management, Office of Policy, Mail code 1804, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; (202) 566-0326; [nickerson.william@epa.gov](mailto:nickerson.william@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This document extends the comment period for two actions published on December 26, 2024, and January 15, 2025. Comments for notice FRL 12023-01-OW (89 FR 105041, December 26, 2024) now must be received on or before April 25, 2025; and comments for notice FRL-12451-01-OW (90 FR 3859, January 15, 2025) must now be received on or before April 16, 2025.

Federal Register citation	Title	Publication date	Original comment period end date	Docket ID
89 FR 105041 ...	Draft National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health for Perfluorooctanoic Acid, Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid, and Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (12023-01-OW).	12/26/2024	2/24/2025	EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0454
90 FR 3859 .....	Draft Sewage Sludge Risk Assessment for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) (FRL-12451-01-OW).	1/15/2025	3/17/2025	EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0504

EPA may identify additional actions for reopening or extending comment periods in subsequent notices.

This document extends the public comment period for the notice “Draft National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health for Perfluorooctanoic Acid, Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid, and Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid,” published in the **Federal Register** document of December 26, 2024 (89 FR 105041) (FRL 12023-01-OW), for 60 days. In that document, EPA announced the availability of draft Clean Water Act (CWA) national recommended ambient water quality criteria (AWQC) for the protection of human health for three per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)—perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)—for a 60-day public comment period. The EPA has developed these draft PFAS national recommended human health criteria (HHC) to reflect the latest scientific information, consistent with current EPA guidance,

methods, and longstanding practice. When PFAS national recommended HHC are finalized, they will provide information that States and Tribes may consider when adopting water quality standards.

This document extends the public comment period for the notice “Draft Sewage Sludge Risk Assessment for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS),” published in the **Federal Register** document of January 15, 2025 (90 FR 3859) (FRL-12451-01-OW), for 30 days. In that document, EPA announced the availability of the “Draft Sewage Sludge Risk Assessment for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)” for a 60-day public comment period. This draft risk assessment reflects the agency’s latest scientific understanding of the potential risks to human health and the environment posed by the presence of PFOA and PFOS in sewage sludge that is land applied as a soil conditioner or fertilizer (on agricultural, forested, and other lands), surface disposed, or

incinerated. The draft risk assessment focuses on those living on or near impacted sites or those that rely primarily on their products (e.g., food crops, animal products, drinking water); the draft risk assessment does not model risks for the general public. This draft risk assessment underwent independent external peer review, and the EPA revised the document accordingly. Once finalized, the risk assessment will provide information on risk from use or disposal of sewage sludge and will inform the EPA’s potential future regulatory actions under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

EPA is extending these comment periods to allow interested parties additional time to thoroughly review and analyze how these notices may impact parties potentially subject to them. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they are already incorporated into the public record and will be considered in the final action as appropriate. Where appropriate, the Agency may consider

further extending the comment period for the above referenced actions.

To submit comments, or access the docket, please follow the detailed instructions provided under **ADDRESSES**. If you have questions, consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Lee Zeldin,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2025-02910 Filed 2-20-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL OP-OFA-166]

### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information 202-564-5632 or <https://www.epa.gov/nepa>.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

Filed February 10, 2025 10 a.m. EST  
Through February 14, 2025 10 a.m. EST

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

*Notice:* Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/eis/search>.

*EIS No. 20250022, Draft, MARAD, USCG, LA, Blue Marlin Offshore Port Project, Comment Period Ends: 04/07/2025, Contact: Martha Mannion 206-815-4907*

*EIS No. 20250023, Draft Supplement, FERC, LA, Commonwealth LNG Project, Comment Period Ends: 04/07/2025, Contact: Office of External Affairs 866-208-3372*

Dated: February 14, 2025.

Nancy Abrams,

Associate Director, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 2025-02907 Filed 2-20-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-3466-FN]

#### Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Approval of Application From the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities dba QUAD A for Continued CMS-Approval of Its Outpatient Physical Therapy (OPT) Accreditation Program

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice acknowledges the approval of an application from the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities dba QUAD A for continued recognition as a national accrediting organization for Outpatient Physical Therapy programs that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs.

**DATES:** The decision announced in this notice is applicable April 4, 2025 to April 4, 2030.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Caecilia Andrews, (410) 786-2190.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

A healthcare provider may enter into an agreement with Medicare to participate in the program as a provider of outpatient physical therapy (OPT) provided certain requirements are met. Section 1861(p)(4) of the Social Security Act (the Act), establishes distinct criteria for facilities seeking designation as an OPT. Regulations concerning Medicare provider agreements in general are at 42 CFR part 489 and those pertaining to the survey and certification for Medicare participation of providers and certain types of suppliers are at part 488. The regulations at part 485, subpart H, specify the conditions that a provider must meet to participate in the Medicare program as an OPT.

Generally, to enter into an agreement, an OPT must first be certified by a state survey agency (SA) as complying with the conditions or requirements set forth in part 485 of our Medicare regulations. Thereafter, the OPT is subject to regular surveys by an SA to determine whether it continues to meet these requirements. Section 1865(a)(1) of the Act provides that, if a provider entity demonstrates through accreditation by a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

approved national accrediting organization (AO) that all applicable Medicare conditions are met or exceeded, we may deem that provider entity as having met the requirements. Accreditation by an AO is voluntary and is not required for Medicare participation.

If an AO is recognized by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services as having standards for accreditation that meet or exceed Medicare requirements, any provider entity accredited by the national accrediting body's approved program may be deemed to meet the Medicare conditions. The AO applying for approval of its accreditation program under part 488, subpart A, must provide CMS with reasonable assurance that the AO requires the accredited provider entities to meet requirements that are at least as stringent as the Medicare conditions. Our regulations concerning the approval of AOs are set forth at § 488.5.

The QUAD A's current term of approval for its OPT program expires April 4, 2025.

##### II. Application Approval Process

Section 1865(a)(3)(A) of the Act provides a statutory timetable to ensure that our review of applications for CMS-approval of an accreditation program is conducted in a timely manner. The Act provides us 210 days after the date of receipt of a complete application, with any documentation necessary to make the determination, to complete our survey activities and application process. Within 60 days after receiving a complete application, we must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** that identifies the national accrediting body making the request, describes the request, and provides no less than a 30-day public comment period. At the end of the 210-day period, we must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** approving or denying the application.

##### III. Provisions of the Proposed Notice

On October 17, 2024, we published a proposed notice in the **Federal Register** (89 FR 8368), announcing QUAD A's request for continued approval of its Medicare OPT accreditation program. In the proposed notice, we detailed our evaluation criteria. Under section 1865(a)(2) of the Act and in our regulations at § 488.5, we conducted a review of QUAD A's Medicare OPT accreditation application in accordance with the criteria specified by our regulations, which include, but are not limited to the following:

- An administrative review of QUAD A's: (1) corporate policies; (2) financial