

## **STATEMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO NYSDEC** — Nov. 24, 2020

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) remains rigorously focused on science and the community's best interests as we continue our commitment to the State's nation-leading efforts to address PFAS contamination across New York, including to advance the needed science on the ultimate safe and responsible disposal of emerging contaminants.

DEC takes the health and environmental concerns of the Cohoes community very seriously and is the reason for the comprehensive actions taken (drinking water assessment) and underway (soil and surface water sampling) to evaluate potential impacts from the Norlite facility. DEC is unwavering in our efforts to protect New Yorkers from harmful exposure to contaminants and pollutants especially emerging contaminants like PFAS compounds. We are currently awaiting the outcome of the soil and water PFAS and metals sampling results, which will be reviewed with the New York State Department of Health to determine any next steps needed. DEC is committed to providing thorough environmental scrutiny of the Facility's past and current operations, has directed the Facility not to resume the practice of AFFF incineration or process any substances containing emerging contaminants without seeking a permit modification, and is requiring robust public engagement as a critical component of the Facility's pending permit applications. For more information, please see: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/121118.html>