

**A Message from the IRIS Program**  
**December 2019**

The IRIS Program is committed to producing assessments in a timely and transparent manner. Table 1 describes assessments that are currently in development and their projected milestone dates. The IRIS Program is providing this information for stakeholders to be aware of upcoming products, and to allow the public and research community an opportunity to communicate relevant research to EPA. The anticipated dates are based on several factors, including complexity of the assessment products and the availability of resources. While projected dates reflect the IRIS Program's best estimate based on available information, they are subject to change. The IRIS Program Outlook will be updated three times each calendar year.

In December 2019, EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) completed its FY2020 annual solicitation for input on EPA program and regional office priorities for the IRIS Program. Through that process, two additional chemicals (chloroform, vanadium and compounds - inhalation) were identified and added to the table below. Updated information on projected milestones for chemicals listed in Table 1 will be provided in February 2020.

**Table 1. IRIS Program Outlook – December 2019**

<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Next Anticipated Public Step(s)</b>	<b>Projected Fiscal Year Quarter</b>
Post-Peer Review	Ethyl tertiary butyl ether (ETBE)	Step 7: Final	FY20 – Q3
	tert-Butyl Alcohol	Step 7: Final	FY20 – Q3
Draft Development	Arsenic, Inorganic	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released May 28, 2019. NAS review meeting July 16, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY21 – Q2
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY21 – Q4
	Chromium VI	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released March 15, 2019. Public Science Meeting April 24, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY21 – Q3
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY22 – Q1
	Chloroform	Step 1: IRIS Assessment Plan	<a href="#">Released September 18, 2017.</a>
		Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released January 31, 2018.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	TBD
		Step 4: External Peer Review	TBD
	Methylmercury	Step 1: IRIS Assessment Plan	<a href="#">Released April 4, 2019. Public Science Meeting May 15, 2019.</a>
		Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	FY20 – Q2
Step 4: Public Comment Draft		FY22 – Q2	

Current Status	Assessment	Next Anticipated Public Step(s)	Projected Fiscal Year Quarter
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY22 – Q4
	Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs; noncancer)	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	FY20 – Q1
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY22 – Q3
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY22 – Q4
Draft Development	Perfluorononanoate (PFNA) <sup>1</sup>	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released on November 8, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY21 – Q1
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY21 – Q4
	Perfluorobutyrate (PFBA) <sup>1</sup>	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released on November 8, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY20 – Q4
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY21 – Q1
	Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) <sup>1</sup>	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released on November 8, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY20 – Q4
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY21 – Q1
	Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS) <sup>1</sup>	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released on November 8, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft <sup>2</sup>	FY21 – Q1
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY21 – Q4

Current Status	Assessment	Next Anticipated Public Step(s)	Projected Fiscal Year Quarter
	Perfluorodecanoate (PFDA) <sup>1</sup>	Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	<a href="#">Released on November 8, 2019.</a>
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY20 – Q4
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY21 – Q1
Scoping and Problem Formulation	Inorganic Mercury salts	Step 1: IRIS Assessment Plan	<a href="#">Released October 8, 2019. Public Science Meeting December 5, 2019.</a>
		Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	FY20 – Q2
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	FY21 – Q4
		Step 4: External Peer Review	FY22 – Q1
	Vanadium and Compounds (Oral)	Step 1: IRIS Assessment Plan	FY20 – Q2
		Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	TBD
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	TBD
		Step 4: External Peer Review	TBD
	Vanadium and Compounds (Inhalation)	Step 1: IRIS Assessment Plan	TBD
		Step 1: Systematic Review Protocol	TBD
		Step 4: Public Comment Draft	TBD
		Step 4: External Peer Review	TBD

<sup>1</sup>Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) assessments under development are in support of [EPA’s PFAS Action Plan: https://www.epa.gov/pfas/epas-pfas-action-plan](https://www.epa.gov/pfas/epas-pfas-action-plan). In addition to the PFAS IRIS assessments listed in Table 1, EPA is reviewing the health effects associated with two additional PFAS compounds, GenX chemicals and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS). For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/genx-and-pfbs-draft-toxicity-assessments>

<sup>2</sup>The release of draft PFBA, PFHxA, PFHxS, PFNA, and PFDA assessments for public comment addresses a Priority Action in [EPA’s PFAS Action Plan](#) to complete “draft PFAS toxicity assessments for 5 additional PFAS in 2020.”