## Select Committee on PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances) Submission 15

I first learnt about PFAS a few years ago. Back then, I learnt that US military bases contaminated their surroundings with those cancercausing chemicals that last forever and I remember thinking how insane the US military system is doing that.

https://www.youtube.com/live/3DOFzvBoYoI

https://worldbeyondwar.org/pfas-contamination-telling-half-thestory/

https://worldbeyondwar.org/usa-department-of-defense-inspector-general-to-investigate-pfas-use-in-military/

https://worldbeyondwar.org/?s=pfas

https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/487782-military-sees-surge-in-sites-with-forever-chemical-contamination/

And then a few months ago, I learnt that we are doing the same thing in Australia, and not merely around military bases, but to our drinking water all over Australia:

https://amp.9news.com.au/article/a3aaa2d4-6278-44eb-909e-3866ccb1dfd2

https://www.smh.com.au/national/there-s-no-safe-level-carcinogens-found-in-tap-water-across-australia-20240606-p5jjq3.html https://www.theage.com.au/national/there-s-no-safe-level-carcinogens-found-in-tap-water-across-australia-20240606-p5jjq3.html The above links let us know that there is no safe level of PFAS, so as long as we contaminate our tap water with it, filter all of the tap water that we use to drink and cook with, but also when we wash fruits, vegetables, etc., we must dry all of our washed food before eating it. The fact that we have to do these things to prevent cancer is ridiculous, or, put in psychological terms: insane. Drinking water is a human right (Article 25a in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights) -

https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights Please use your power as politicians (as voters in Parliament, as well as people with a large public audience and easy access to fellow politicians who you can convince) to end PFAS contamination of Australia's waterways and tap water.