

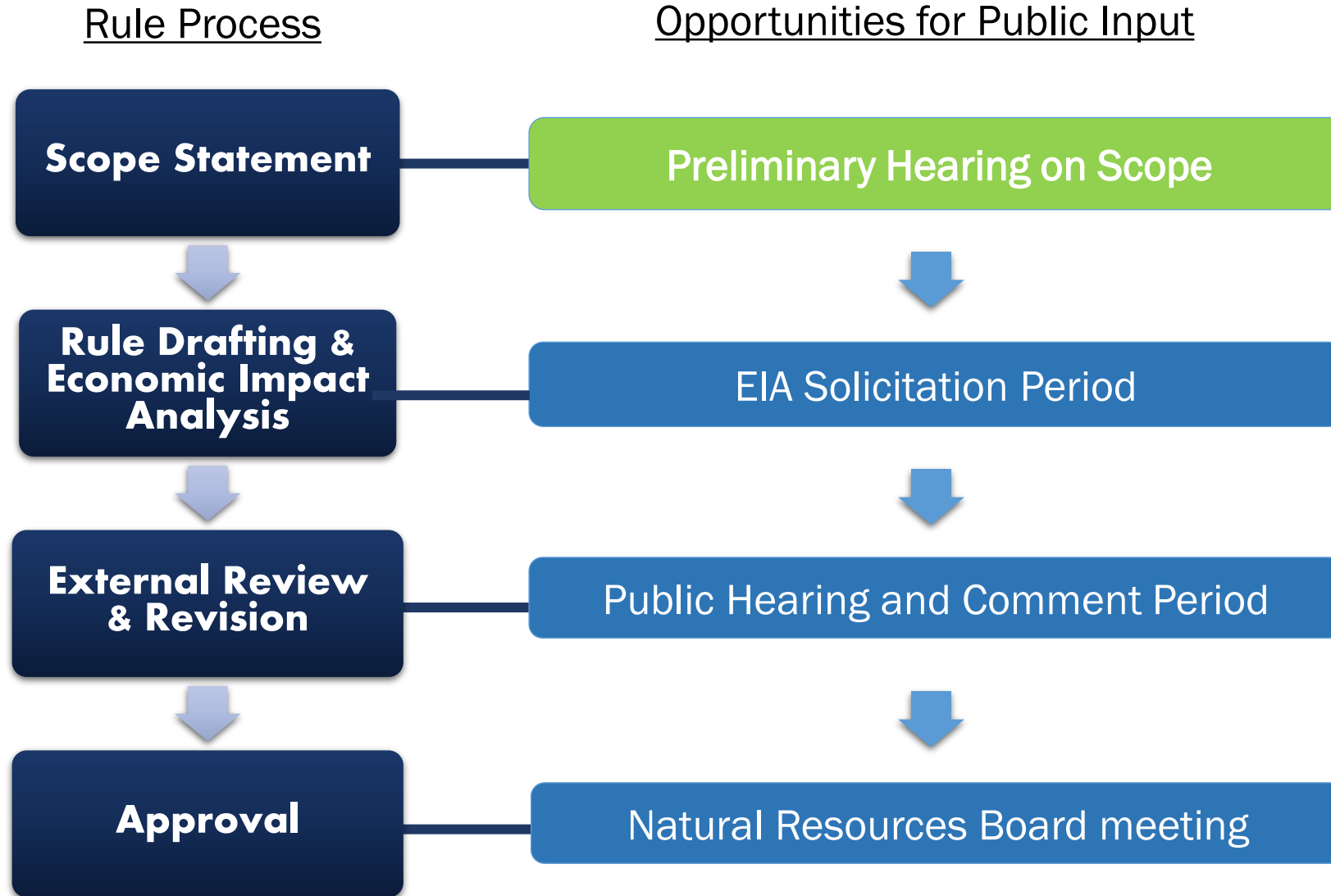
**Preliminary Public Hearing on Scope Statement
for Board Order DG-02-25**

**NR 140 related to
establishing groundwater standards for six
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)**

Presenter: Dr. Carla Romano, Groundwater Section Manager

March 6, 2025, 10:30 AM

Preliminary Hearing and Comment Period for Scope Statement



Background

- In April 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released federal drinking water standards for six PFAS (PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, and HFPO-DA or GenX).
- In May 2024, DNR requested the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to provide updated state groundwater standards recommendations for these six PFAS.
- In January 2025, DNR received updated groundwater standards recommendations from DHS.
- In January 2025, DNR initiated this rulemaking process.
- This is the DNR's fourth attempt to establish groundwater standards for PFAS substances. Unlike previous efforts, this current attempt follows the enactment of federal standards.

Scope: DG-02-25

Amend NR 140 to establish groundwater standards for six PFAS based on the 2025 DHS recommendations.

PFAS compound	Proposed enforcement standard (in ng/L or ppt)	Proposed preventive action limit (in ng/L or ppt)
PFOA	4	0.4
PFOS	4	0.4
PFHxS	10	1
PFNA	10	1
PFBS	2,000	200
HFPO-DA	10	1

DHS Scientific Supporting Document can be found at this weblink: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03694.pdf>

What changed from past recommendations

- In 2024, EPA established federal drinking water standards.
- In 2025, DHS released updated groundwater standards recommendations that align with federal standards.
- The 2025 DHS groundwater standards recommendations are lower, or more stringent, than concentrations previously proposed in earlier rulemaking efforts.

PFAS compound	Pre-2025 DHS enforcement standard recommendations (in ng/L or ppt)	2025 DHS enforcement standard recommendations (in ng/L or ppt)	EPA federal drinking water standards (in ng/L or ppt)
PFOA	20	4	4
PFOS	20	4	4
PFHxS	40	10	10
PFNA	30	10	10
PFBS	450,000	2,000	2,000*
HFPO-DA	300	10	10

*Health Advisory

Additional notes

- This scope statement aims to amend chapter NR 140 and establish state groundwater standards for six PFAS. Groundwater standards set regulatory thresholds for regulated activities and facilities to prevent the release of substances into groundwater at concentrations exceeding the standards.
- A separate rulemaking effort is currently ongoing to amend chapter NR 809 and establish PFAS state drinking water standards. These proposed standards also align with EPA federal drinking water standards. NR 809 applies to public water systems (community wells, restaurants, hotels, etc.)

Where you can find more information

DNR website *NR 140 Groundwater Quality Standards Update*

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Groundwater/NR140.html>