

2 Februari 2024

# Enforcement of 3M, Oosterweel and Indaver

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**Enforcement Manager**

▶ **Introduction**



**Kris De Wree**

**Environmental Supervisor**

▶ **Enforcement at 3M**





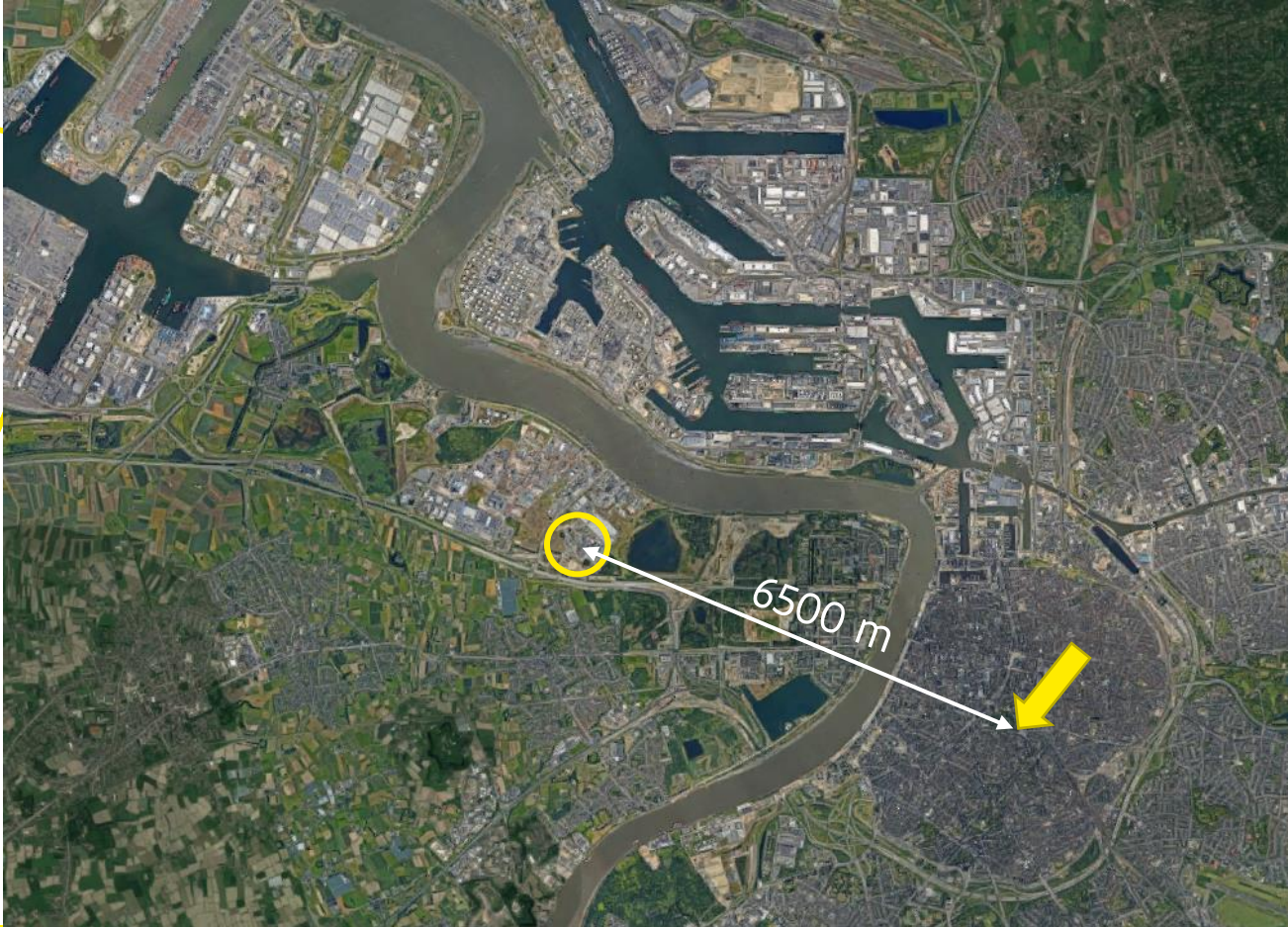
**3M Zwijndrecht  
production site  
PFAS enforcement**



## 3M PFAS enforcement



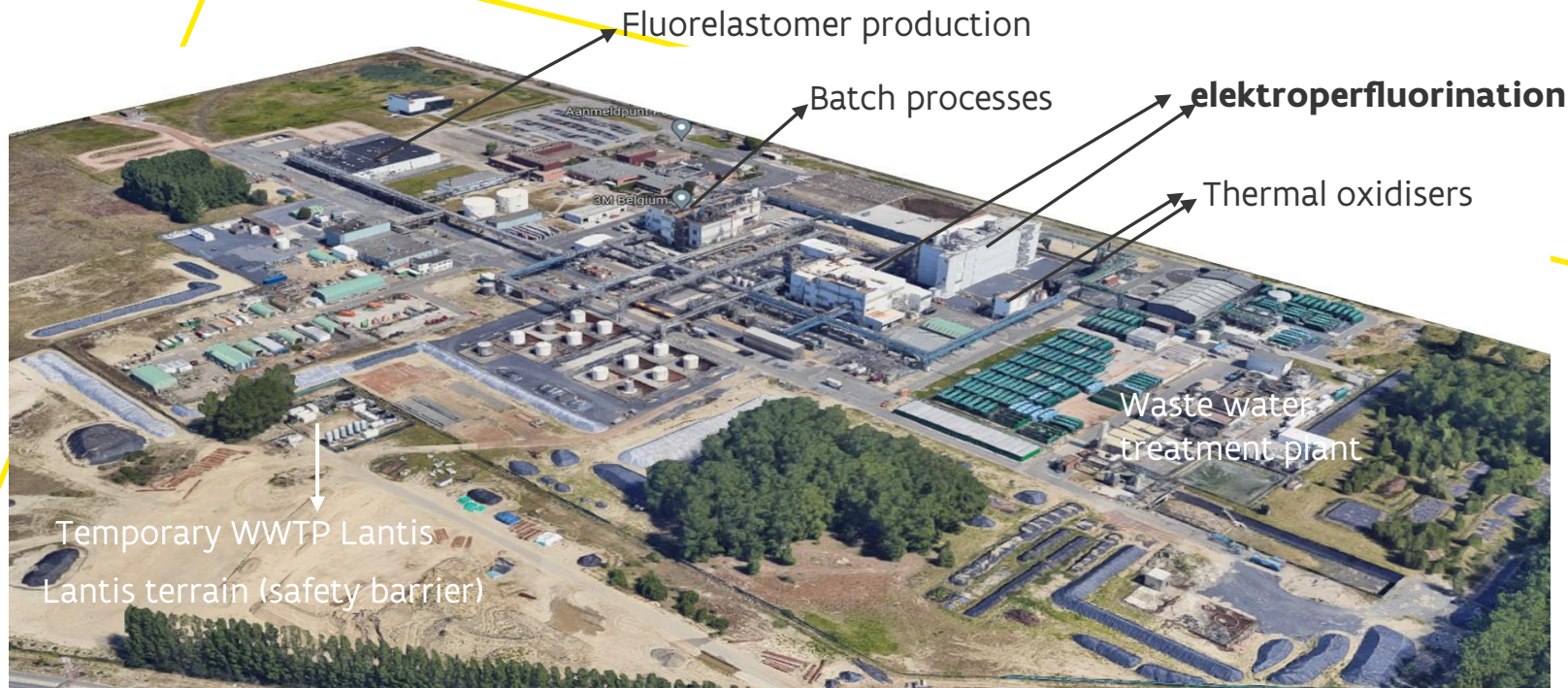
1. Introduction to 3M facility in Zwijndrecht
2. Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions to **surface water**
3. Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions **to air**
4. Bottlenecks & Lessons learned



## Introduction to 3M facility in Zwijndrecht



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## Introduction to the 3M facility in Zwijndrecht





PFAS emissions to surface water

PFAS emissions to air

(historical) PFAS emissions to soil

PFAS emissions to waste

**Introduction to the 3M facility in Zwijndrecht**

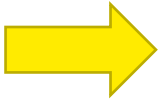
## 3M PFAS enforcement



1. Introduction to 3M facility in Zwijndrecht

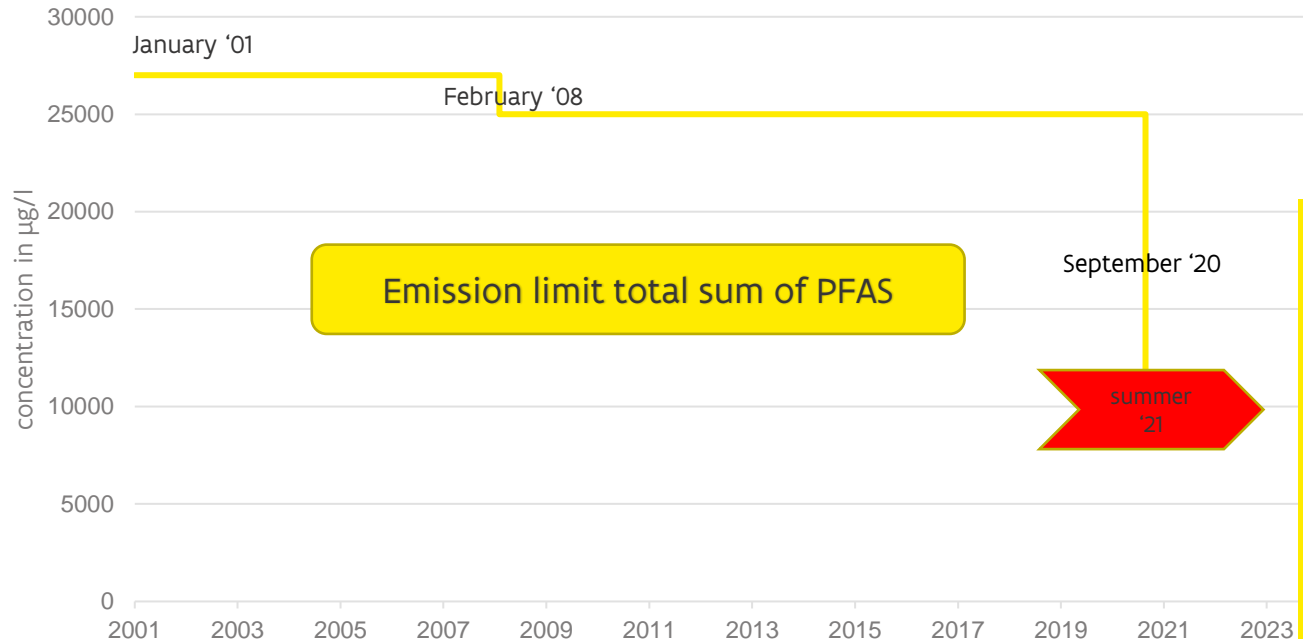
Emission limits for PFAS

2. Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions to **surface water**





## PFAS water discharge levels in 3M Zwijndrecht permits



Determination of unpermitted discharge of PFBSA in waste water effluent

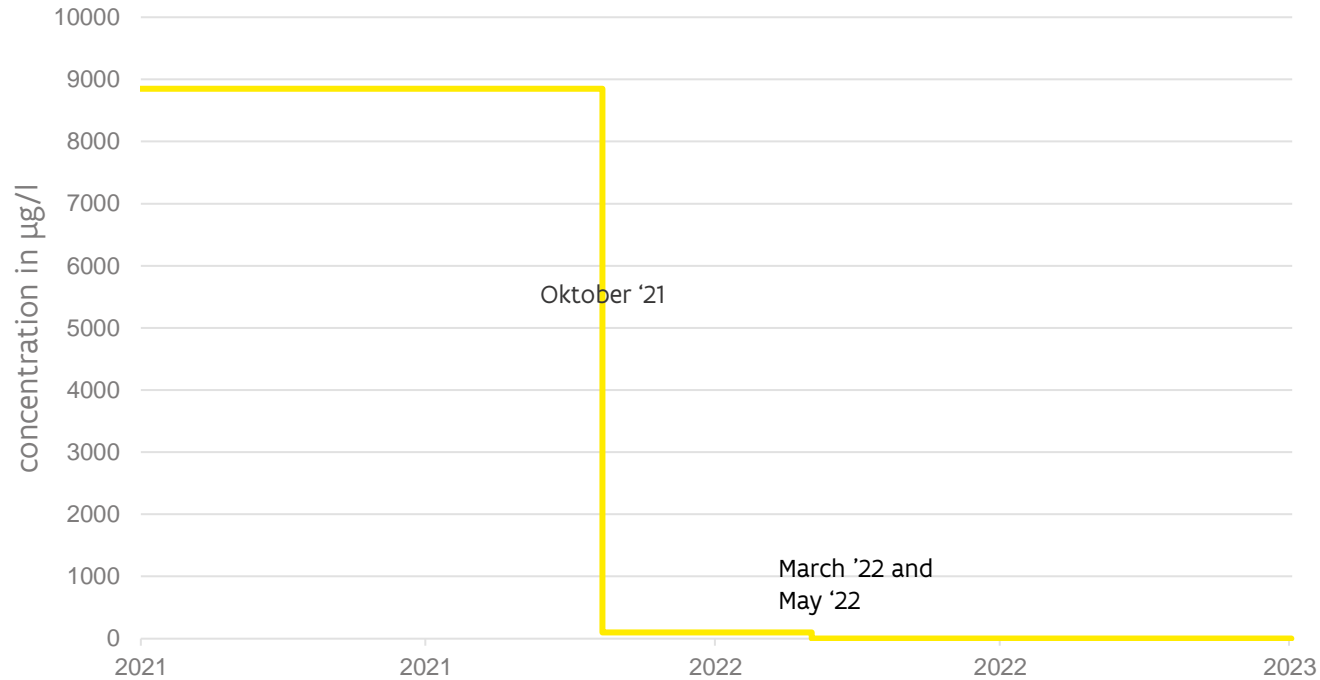
+  
Increasing data on high levels of PFAS in soil, groundwater, egs in Zwijndrecht

+  
Research by department of Care showing unsafe levels of PFAS in blood of 3M neighbours

**Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions to surface water**

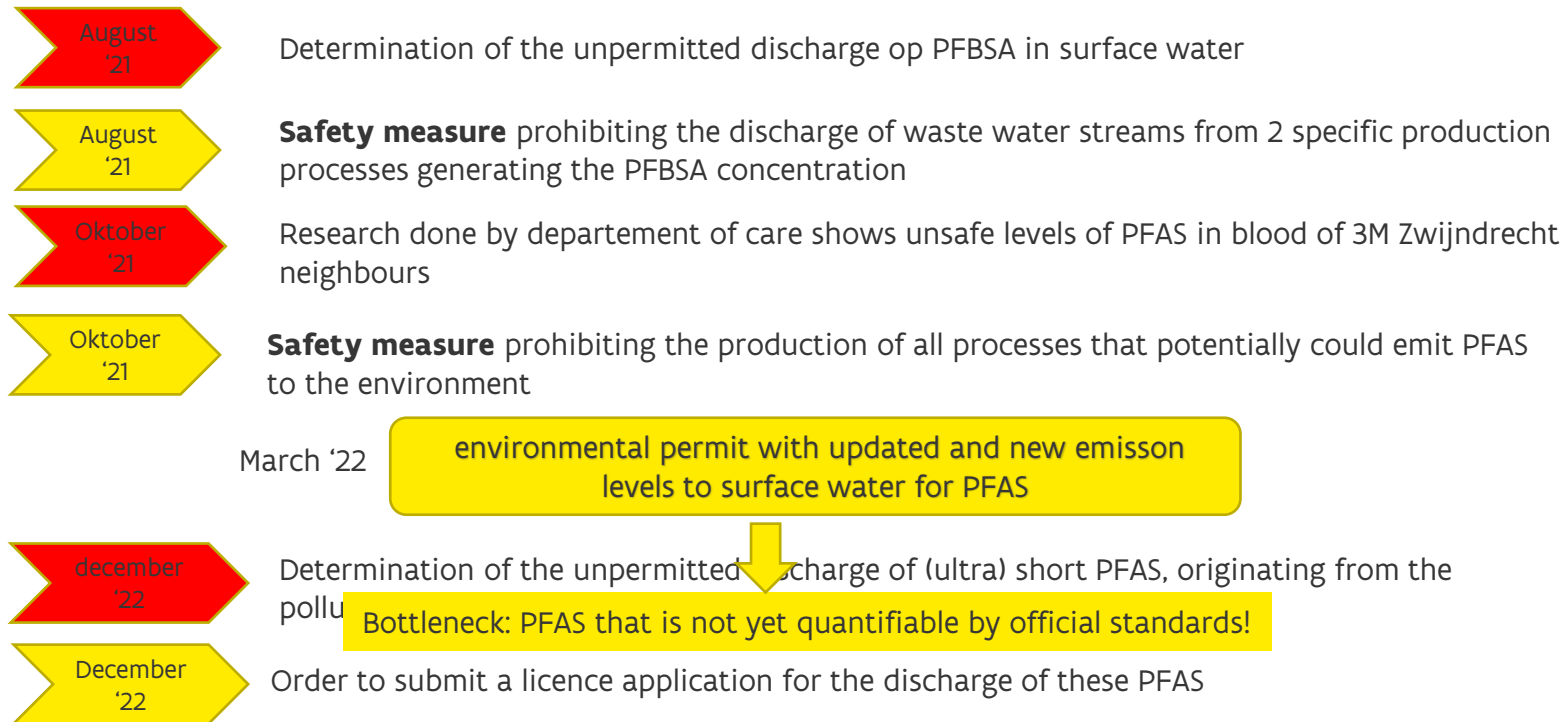


## PFAS water discharge levels in 3M Zwijndrecht permits



**Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions to surface water**

# Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in surface water



## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in surface water



### current situation on site

- Highly efficient WWTP
- Non-treatable PFAS waste water from production is shipped as waste
- On site construction in progress of 2 new parallel WWTP plants
- still limited discharge of (ultrashort) PFAS from ground water remediation

## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in surface water



### Different ways of monitoring

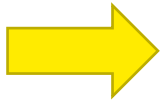
- Increased sampling frequency of 3M waste water
- Analysis used: WAC/IV/A/025
- Active screening of 3M self control data

WAC/IV/A/025: bottleneck = limited number of quantifiable PFAS

## 3M PFAS enforcement



1. Introduction to 3M facility in Zwijndrecht
2. Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions to **surface water**



3. Enforcement timeline of PFAS emissions **to air**

**No emission limits for PFAS**



## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in air



Okt '21

Research done by department of care shows unsafe levels of PFAS in blood of 3M Zwijndrecht neighbours

Okt '21

**Safety measure** prohibiting the production of all processes that potentially could emit PFAS to the environment

Feb '22

Permission of lab scale production process

- Co-signed by the department of care
- main articles:

may '22

3M announces the definitive stop of 4 PFAS production on the Zwijndrecht site

- Prohibition on PFAS production
- Take action on minimising diffuse PFAS emission from dust
- PFAS production can only be permitted after approval based on an

june '22

Permission of department expert judgement process under specific conditions

June '23

3M Zwijndrecht announces an accelerated PFAS production stop by 2024  
3M announces the definitive stop of NOVEC1230 on the Zwijndrecht site

Sept '23

The latest expert judgement indicates that PFAS air emissions from specific production process can cause an increase in PFAS levels in the ground water above the temporary legal frame.

## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in air



### Current situation

- 3M Zwijndrecht has permanently stopped the perfluorination cells.
- Processing of intermediates
- Cleaning installation + PFAS waste shipping

## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in air



### Different ways of monitoring monitoring PFAS emission in stacks

- Sampling + lab analysis LC/MS en GC/MS
- EPA's OTM-45 and recently developed LUC/VI/003

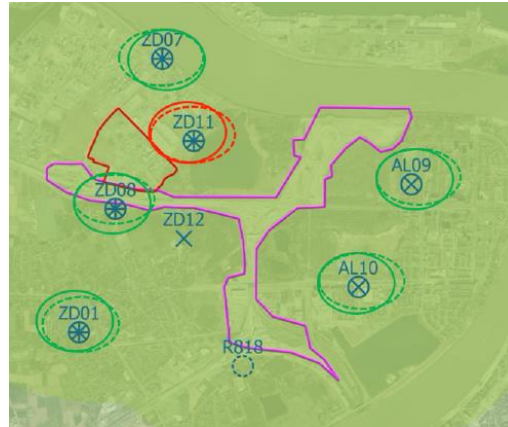
bottleneck = limited number of quantifiable PFAS

## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in air



Different ways of monitoring  
monitoring PFAS immission in the environment

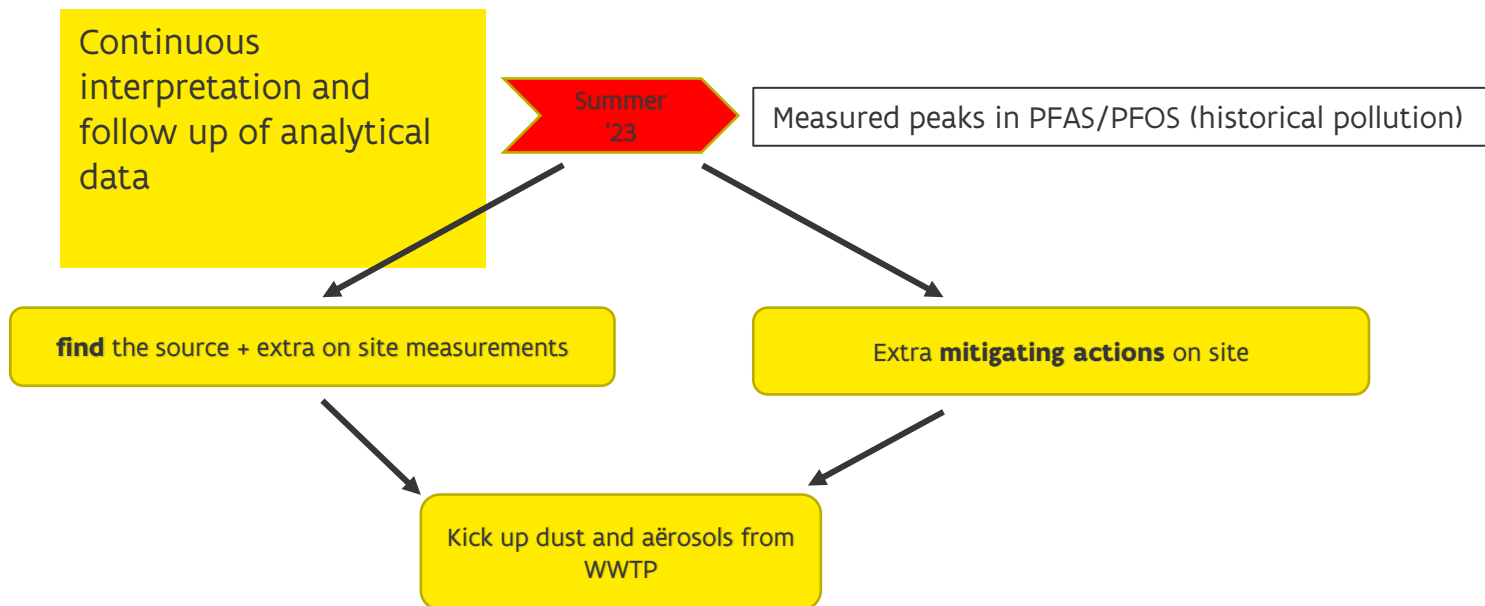
Continuous  
interpretation and  
follow up of analytical  
data



## Enforcement timeline concerning PFAS in air



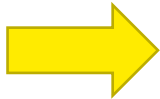
monitoring PFAS immission in the environment



## 3M PFAS enforcement



1. Introduction to 3M facility in Zwijndrecht
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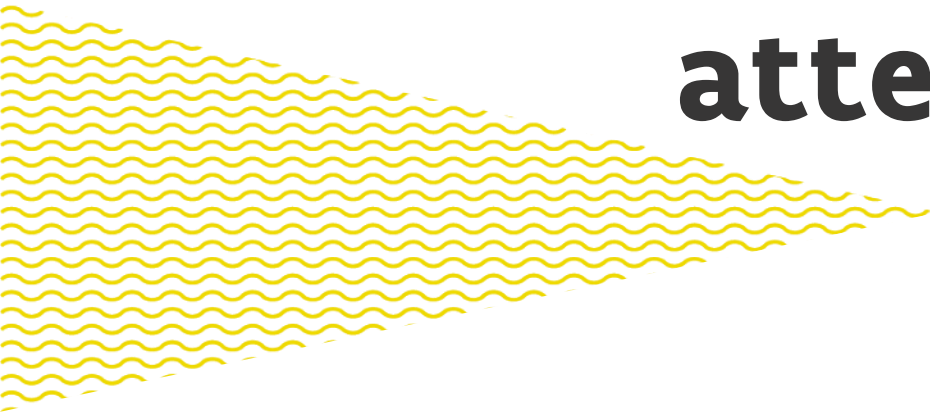
4. Bottlenecks & Lessons learned

## Bottlenecks & Lessons Learned



- Emission limits + Methods of measurements and analysis
- Importance of monitoring
- Team effort of different actors with specific expertise:
  - VMM
  - OVAM
  - departement of Care
  - VITO

**Thank You for your  
attention**



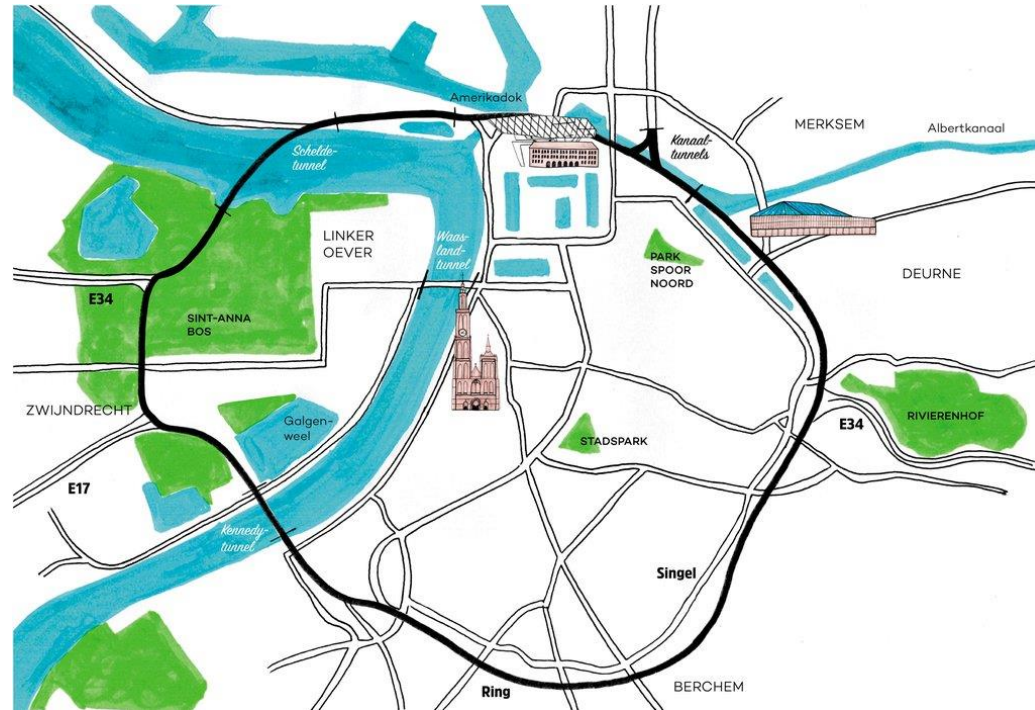


**An Swinnen**

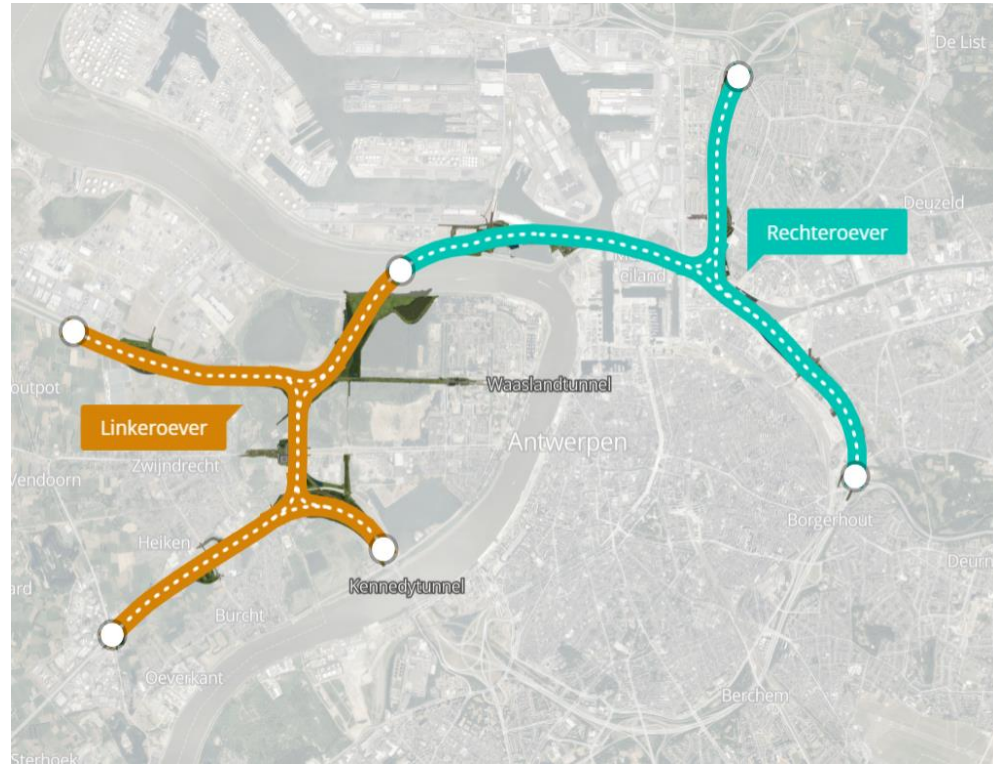
**Environmental Supervisor**

▶ **Enforcement at Oosterweel**





The construction site of the century

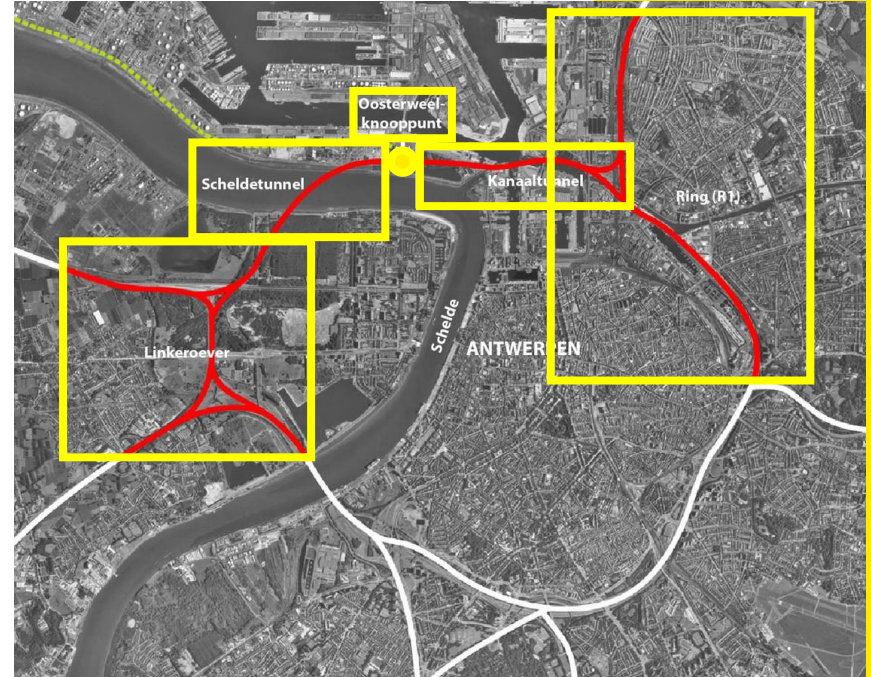


## The construction site of the century



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**EU**  
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- **Zwijndrecht – Linkeroever**  
Rinkoniën
- **Scheldetunnel**  
COTU
- **Oosterweelknoop**  
Rinkoniën Oosterweelknoop
- **Rechteroever – Kanaaltunnels**
- **R1**  
ROCO
- **Side projects**  
Often not class 1 permits



**Construction zones**



## PFAS hotspot

**Problem:** 2.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of PFAS-contaminated soil

> 70 µg/kg dm

< 70/47 µg/kg dm

PFAS-contaminated groundwater

Water treatment



**Reality:** Evolving scientific insights

Lawsuits / Appeals

New legislation

→ Permits are getting more strict



## PFAS contaminated groundwater Permit

2019

PFOS	1 µg/l
PFOA	5 µg/l
SOF	200 µg/l

Today

PFOS	0.1 µg/l
PFOA	0.1 µg/l
PFAS other	0.1 µg/l



# Inspection / Enforcement

## groundwater

Sampling of groundwater / wastewater

Evaluate permit conditions:

follow up Water Treatment

Detection of PFBA in purified wastewater:

Advice to update permit



**Zwijndrecht - Linkeroever**



# Inspection / Enforcement

## Air monitoring

Permit condition: Dust preventing measures

Speed limit

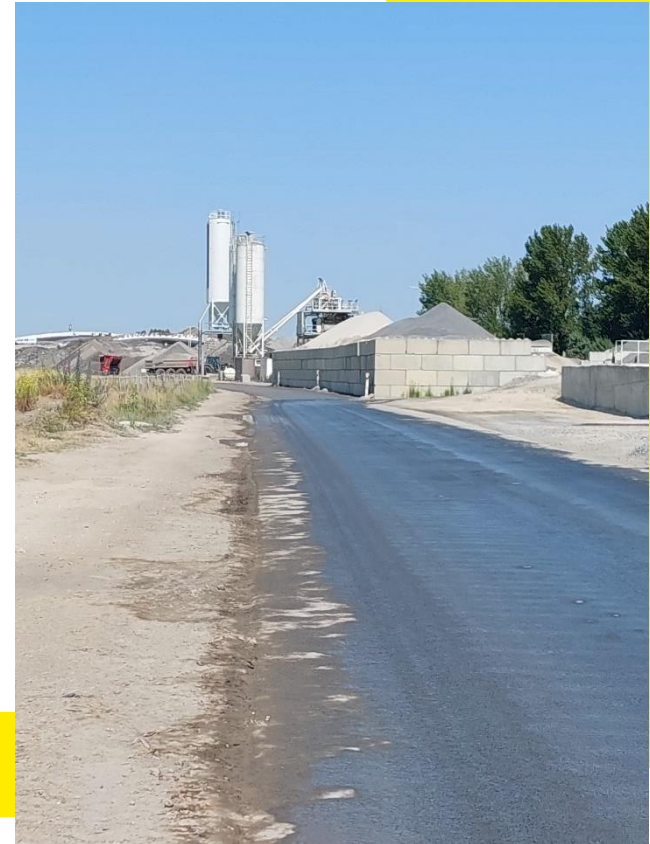
Sweeping the roads

Spraying water

Transport routes away from populated areas



Zwijndrecht - Linkeroever







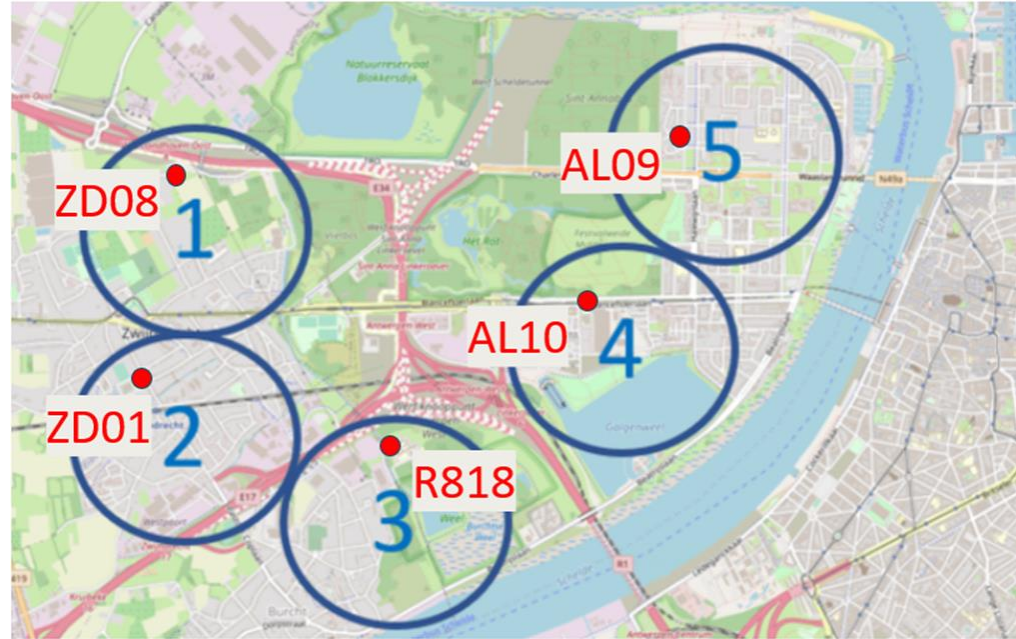
# Inspection / Enforcement

## Air monitoring

Permit condition: Monitoring plan

- 5 fixed PM10 monitors, TSP samplers and deposition collectors (VMM): populated areas
- Mobile air samplers (Lantis): construction site
- Netto PM10 for 3 sequential hours, warning (20) and action (40) thresholds
- Notification mail

DUST ≠ PFAS



Zwijndrecht - Linkeroever



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**Zwijndrecht - Linkeroever**

Tabel: Netto PM<sub>10</sub> (µg/m<sup>3</sup>) voor de meetstations

Tijdstip (lokale tijd)	Meetstations uitgebaat door VMM					Meetstations uitgebaat door VITO					
	42ZD08	42ZD01	42R818	42AL10	42AL09	FLM3M1	FLM3M2	FLM3M3	FLM3M4	FLM3M5	FLM3M6
2024-01-22 00:30	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	-9999
2024-01-22 01:00	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	-9999
2024-01-22 01:30	0	1	0	1	1	3	1	1	0	1	-9999
2024-01-22 02:00	0	1	1	3	1	2	2	0	1	1	-9999
2024-01-22 02:30	0	1	0	4	2	2	2	0	0	1	-9999
2024-01-22 03:00	0	0	0	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	-9999
2024-01-22 03:30	0	1	1	3	0	1	0	1	1	1	-9999
2024-01-22 04:00	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	-9999
2024-01-22 04:30	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	-9999
2024-01-22 05:00	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	-9999
2024-01-22 05:30	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-9999
2024-01-22 06:00	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	-9999
2024-01-22 06:30	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	1	3	-9999
2024-01-22 07:00	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	-9999
2024-01-22 07:30	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	-9999



# Inspection / Enforcement

## Groundwater

Towards Schelde

Towards Blokkersdijk (dry period)

Sampling of groundwater / wastewater

Evaluate permit conditions:

follow up Water Treatment

**Cover and removal PFAS soil**

**Scheldetunnel**





## **Lessons learned** Zwijndrecht-Linkeroever-Scheldetunnel

- Prevention dust
- Air monitoring
- Groundwater treatment
- Cover and removal PFAS soil

**Joffrey Vanmoer**

**Environmental Supervisor**

▶ **Enforcement at Indaver**



## Table of content



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## Waste-managing activities at Indaver



Incineration, physicochemical treatment and landfill, specialized in industrial waste





## Waste-managing activities



Incineration, physicochemical treatment and landfill, specialized in industrial waste



## Wastewater



- 2021: development new method for quantification of more PFAS by VITO
  - Not usable for enforcement before published as law (“validated method”)
  - Already in use by commercial laboratory
  - Decision Enforcement Flanders:
    - Take samples as soon as possible, no need to wait until the method is published as law!
- Wastewater-sample by Enforcement Flanders on 14/8/2021
  - PFBA 1100 µg/L
  - Second analysis on 2/9/2021: 1600µg/L PFBA
  - Counteranalyses: +/- same results
- No publication of new method as law/validated method
  - Enforcement = “order” (in Dutch: “aanmaning”)

## Wastewater

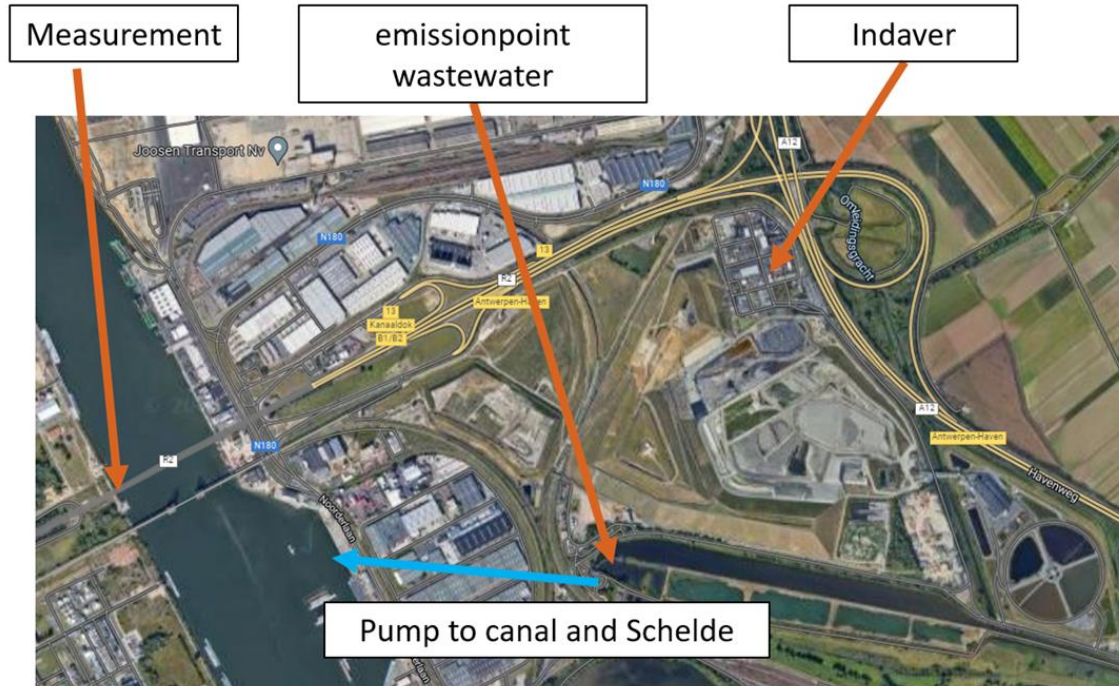


- Remediation in phases
- First: waste with high concentration of PFBA in landfill:
  - In special matrix (“cement”) before going to landfill
  - Dumped in saltcells inside existing landfill
  - Burning of remaining water that collects on bottom of landfill instead of emitting through wastewater
- Concentration PFBA in wastewater remained high
  - Indaver: extra purification + adjustment of emission-permit
- June 2022: permit was denied: only further purification was possible
  - Installation of sandfilter + active carbon (2 streets of 4 filters)
  - From august 2022: no more PFAS detected in wastewater in concentrations above detection limit

# Wastewater



Effect on the canal



## Wastewater



Effect on the canal

Meetpuntnummer	Datum	PFBA (ng/L)
804000	17/01/2022	798
	14/02/2022	426
	14/03/2022	316
	11/04/2022	214
	09/05/2022	212
	13/06/2022	83
	04/07/2022	NG
	08/08/2022	41,1
	05/09/2022	30,3

## Soil and groundwater



- February 2022: PFAS in groundwater (50m)
  - Enforcement = “order”: plan of action
- Plan of action Indaver:
  - Sampling monitoring pits surrounding Indaver
  - Verification flow groundwater
- Sampling of monitoring pits by Enforcement Flanders (summer 2022)
  - 45 samples

# Soil and groundwater



**Legend:**

Green point =  
 $PFAS_{(tot)} < \text{norm groundwater}$

Yellow point =  
 $\text{Norm} < PFAS_{(tot)} < \text{norm groundwater} \times 10$

Orange point =  
 $\text{Norm groundwater} \times 10 < PFAS_{(tot)} < \text{norm groundwater} \times 50$

Red point =  
 $\text{Norm groundwater} \times 50 < PFAS_{(tot)} < \text{norm groundwater} \times 100$

Purple point =  
 $\text{Norm groundwater} \times 100 < PFAS_{(tot)} < \text{norm groundwater} \times 500$

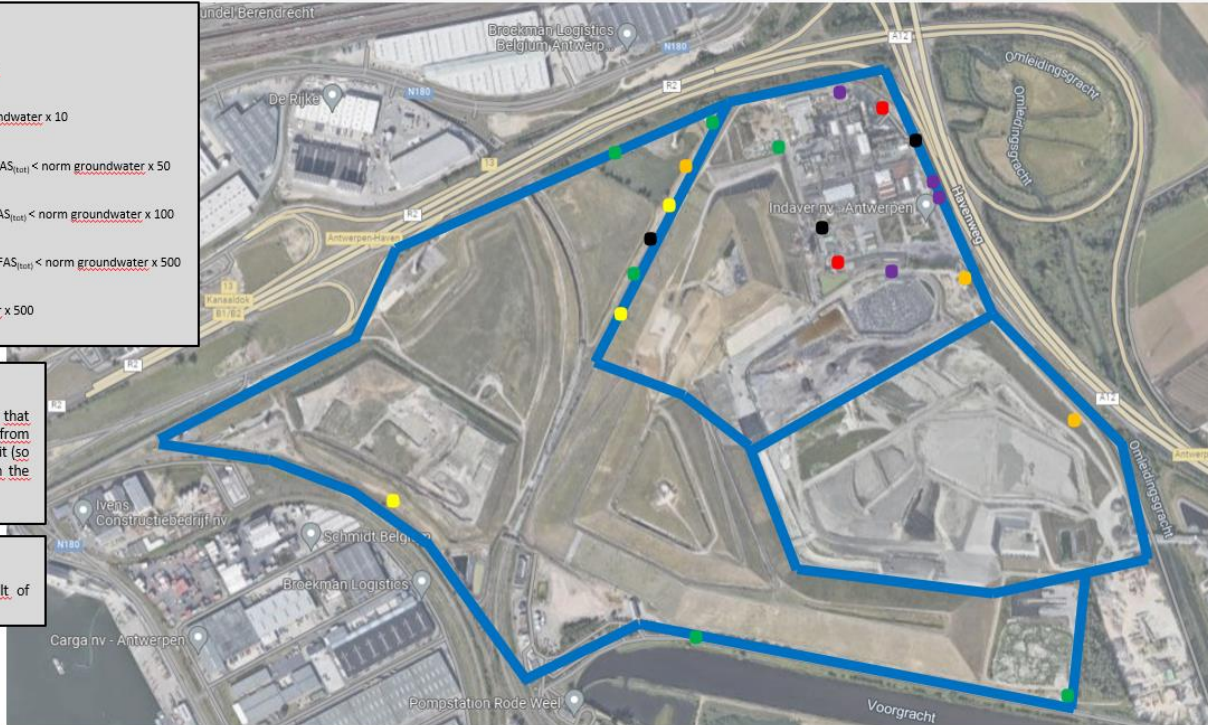
Black point =  
 $PFAS_{(tot)} > \text{norm groundwater} \times 500$

**Remark:**

Based on highest value at that location, indifferently from depth of the monitoring pit (so if this was a triplet, then the highest value is used).

**Remark 2:**

Values don't include fault of analyses (+/- 50%).



## Soil and groundwater



- Extra samples of additionally installed monitoring pits by Indaver
  - Even higher concentrations were found
- Sources
  - Some historic smaller sources (former waste-collectionpits, fires etc.)
  - Old landfill (!) – up to 28,000,000 ng/l PFAS at one samplepoint
- Current state and further enforcement:
  - Enforcement Flanders: “Proces-verbaal” (police report) has been written
  - Smaller sources probably remediated
  - One source at the old landfill was remediated
  - Enforcement Flanders:
    - 31/1/2024: identification of additional sources at landfill
    - 1/5/2024: remediation of landfill-source(s)
    - 1/6/2024: proposal of monitoring



## Air



- Uncertainty about PFAS-emissions by air:
  - Enforcement = “order”: measuring of emissions
- 3 different researches:
  - Sampling of the emissions
  - Deposition of PFAS in the environment
  - PFAS in environmental air
- Problem:
  - No validated measurement protocols
  - Solution: VITO was developing measurement protocols
- Enforcement:
  - No emissionlimit
  - Base = “what is acceptable”: in close collaboration with Flanders Environmental Agency (“VMM Vlaamse Milieu Maatschappij”) and Department of Care (“Departement Zorg”).

## Air



- Based on **current** results and knowledge (!):
  - No immediate reasons for concern
- Remediating actions
  - Use of clean water instead of PFAS-polluted groundwater in the treatment of emitted air
  - Changing the active carbon that was used in the air-emission treatment
  - Result = lower emissions
- Unresolved questions and further research
  - Emission measurement during a worst-case-scenario
  - Is emission acceptable taking into account the PFAS that are already in the surrounding areas?
  - What about the PFAS (and intermediates) that we can't measure with the current techniques?

## Future



- Non-targeted analysis and semi-quantification