

## 2023 ACO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

JUNE 2025

**1. Q: What was studied in the Navy's pilot study for the Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft?**

A. Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) completed pre-reactivation testing of its Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system as part of a pilot study at the Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft (NAHS). During the study, samples were collected before, during and after the treatment process, and were sent to an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-certified lab in the U.S. mainland for testing, specifically for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), metals and other analytes.

**2. Q: Does it take 10 days to receive results from drinking water testing? If so..., can we have confidence in our drinking water if we would not learn of potential contaminants until 10 days after we drink or use it? What happens when contaminants are detected?**

A. In March 2022, after the Navy completed flushing and sampling of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam drinking water system, the Hawaii Department of Health declared the system safe. Under the Navy's Drinking Water Long-Term Monitoring Plan that began in March 2022 and subsequent Extended Drinking Water Monitoring Program, validated drinking water sample results were received within 10 days after the sample was submitted to an Environmental Protection Agency-certified lab in the U.S. mainland. If exceedances were detected, residents were immediately notified, and a team was sent to the home to retest the water and offer bottled water until retested sample results returned from the lab.