

**TITLE 2: NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION 3: THE ENVIRONMENT**

**§ 3907. Definitions.**

As used in this Chapter, the term:

(a) “Bureau” means the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

(b) “Commonwealth” means the government established under the Constitution which became effective on January 9, 1978, including its autonomous and non-autonomous agencies.

(c) “Maximum contaminant level” or “MCL” means the maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water which is delivered to any user of a public water system.

(d) “Groundwater” means water derived from the subsurface which is in the zone of saturation.

(e) “Water quality criteria” means the numeric pollutant concentrations and/or narrative requirements of adequate stringency to protect designated uses of groundwater.

(f) “PFAS” means per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances and pertains to all man-made chemicals that contain at least one fully fluorinated carbon, or C<sub>n</sub>F<sub>2n+1</sub>alkyl moiety.

**Source:** PL 22-06, § 3 (Aug. 20, 2021).

**Commission Comment:** PL 22-06 designated “The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Protection from PFAS Act” to be included in Chapter 9, §§ 3901-3908. However, PL 22-19 has already been codified into Chapter 9, §§ 3901-3906. Accordingly, in codifying PL 22-06, the Commission renumbered the sections pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(b).