May 11, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

Firefly Sports Testing reviewed the analytical results associated with PFAS testing performed on samples collected from Cornell University Meinig Fieldhouse Indoor and Cornell University Robison Alumni West Field. Testing included both EPA Method 1633 and Total Organic Fluorine (TOF) analysis by Combustion Ion Chromatography (CIC).

EPA Method 1633 is currently one of the most robust and technically defensible analytical methods available for PFAS analysis in solid materials. The method was specifically developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for quantitative analysis of targeted PFAS compounds in aqueous and non-aqueous matrices, including soils, sediments, biosolids, and solid materials. The method utilizes liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) with isotope dilution and matrix-specific quality control procedures to identify and quantify specific PFAS compounds.

The EPA 1633 results associated with these samples reported non-detect ("ND") results for the targeted PFAS analytes included within the scope of the method at the associated reporting limits.

By comparison, Total Organic Fluorine (TOF) analysis is fundamentally different in both scope and interpretation. TOF analysis does not identify or quantify specific PFAS compounds. Instead, it measures the total amount of fluorine-containing organic material present within a sample. Importantly, TOF is not currently associated with a universally accepted EPA regulatory method for environmental PFAS compliance evaluation in synthetic turf systems or related solid matrices.

TOF analysis is considered a broad screening tool rather than a compound-specific confirmatory method. The technique may respond to numerous fluorinated substances, including both PFAS and non-PFAS fluorinated compounds, and does not determine which specific compounds are responsible for a reported fluorine detection. As a result, TOF data alone cannot determine the identity, concentration, toxicological significance, or regulatory relevance of any detected fluorinated material.

For this reason, Firefly Sports Testing considers TOF analysis to be most appropriately utilized as a preliminary screening or procurer-level evaluation tool to determine whether additional targeted PFAS testing may be warranted. In situations where TOF screening indicates the potential presence of fluorinated compounds, a compound-specific analytical method such as EPA Method 1633 is necessary to accurately identify and quantify regulated or environmentally relevant PFAS compounds.

Accordingly, TOF results should not be interpreted as direct evidence of PFAS contamination without confirmation through a validated compound-specific analytical method. EPA Method 1633 remains the more accurate, specific, and technically defensible approach for determining the presence or absence of targeted PFAS compounds within solid environmental and synthetic turf-related materials.

Regards,

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