

COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLIERS CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS

With the passage of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring each community water system to provide Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRS) to its customers once a year. On August 18, 1998, EPA issued National Primary Drinking Water Regulations which provides the requirements for the CCRS. Each community water system must prepare and distribute their first CCR, covering calendar year 1998, by October 19, 1999 and on July 1 from then on.

1. The CCRs are to include information about the source water and the finished water using concise, simple language. Some examples on information to be included are:
2. information on the source water;
3. definition of terms such as maximum contaminant level (MCL), MCL goal (MCLG), variances, etc.;
4. the MCLG, MCL, and highest level of any regulated contaminant detected in the public water system;
5. the activities or sources that may have caused any contamination;
6. if a contaminant exceeds EPA's safety standard, explain the health risks and actions taken to eliminate the violation;

7. how vulnerable communities can avoid Cryptosporidium;
8. how to get more information about the State's Source Water Assessment when available;
9. how to get more information on related topics.

**Your First Report is due
October 19, 1999 and each
July 1st thereafter**

The SWDA does allow state governors to determine that a water system serving fewer than 10,000 persons does not have to directly mail the report to customers but must make the report available upon request. Gov. Ridge and Secretary Seif of the PA Department of Environmental Protection have chosen not to allow this exemption. Therefore, water systems in PA, regardless of size, must directly mail the CCR to all water customers.

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CCRs offer utilities an opportunity to take a proactive role in educating their customers about the quality of the drinking water in the system. The CCR offers flexibility in how you present this information which can be critical in determining how the information will be received by the public. DEP is working on "fill-in-the-blank" template forms for suppliers to use to comply with this new requirement.

Contact your consultant or your local DEP representative to learn more about Consumer Confidence Reports and your obligations under this new rule.

"In the Know"

- CET's Technology Transfer contains useful articles and links of operational, administration and engineering interest, look up at **www.cet-inc.com**

- Waterworks and Wastewater Operators now have on-line resources available at **www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/waterops/**

- Y2K bugged? This site describes the Y2K problem for water and wastewater facilities and provides a 6-step approach for finding and fixing problems.

Check out this excellent site at **www.cpa.gov/year2000/ow.htm#Millbug/**

HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS AT POTWS

On December 1, 1998, EPA proposed regulations at 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart VVV, establishing publicly owned treatment works (POTW) as a source category under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act. EPA has determined that POTWs emit some of the hazardous air pollutants (HAP) found on EPA's list of 188 HAP. A few of the primary HAP emitted by POTWs include benzene, chloroform, ethylbenzene, methylene chloride, naphthalene, tetrachloroethylene, toluene and xylenes.

EPA is proposing to establish emission standards for POTWs that require control of HAP emissions from each new or reconstructed POTW treatment plant which is a major source of HAP. A major source of HAP is defined as emitting or having the potential to emit a single HAP at a rate of 10 tons or more per year or any combination of HAP at a rate of 25 tons or more per year.

POTW treatment plants that treat high-strength industrial wastewater may be major sources with daily average flows as low as 4 MGD. On the other hand, POTW treatment plants with low HAP concentrations in their influent wastewater may not be major sources even with a flow rate of 300 MGD.

The proposed regulations also require existing and new POTW treatment plants that treat specific wastestreams from industrial users that are subject to National Emission Standards of Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) to meet the treatment and control requirements of the relevant NESHAP.

The proposed regulations do not include any standards for wastewater collection systems at this time since

insufficient information is available to determine HAP emissions from such sources.

HAP emission points at POTWs may include influent channels, bar screens, grit chambers, grinders, pump stations, aerated feeder channels, primary screening stations, sewage sludge incinerators, stationary internal combustion engines, boilers and turbines.

A simple screening tool for determining whether a POTW is a major source uses the POTW influent flow, influent HAP concentrations and emission factors found on Table 1 of 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart VVV. If there are any ambiguities concerning a POTW's status as a major source, EPA's computer fate

EPA is Proposing to Establish Emission Standards for POTW's

model, WATER8, must be used to resolve any conflicts.

The proposed regulations establish two categories of POTW treatment plants--industrial and non-industrial POTW treatment plants. A POTW treatment plant is an industrial POTW treatment plant if it accepts wastewater from an industrial user subject to a NESHAP standard who uses the POTW treatment plant process to comply with their NESHAP requirements. An industrial POTW treatment plant must then meet the standards established in the relevant NESHAP. Requirements include performance tests, routine monitoring, record-keeping and reporting.

A new or reconstructed non-industrial

POTW treatment plant that is a major source of HAP emissions has certain control requirements, such as installation of covers on all sources of emissions up to, but not including, the secondary influent pumping station. In addition, all covered units, except primary clarifiers, must have the air in the headspace ducted to a control device, as required under 40 CFR 63, Subpart DD, for closed-vent systems and control devices.

To determine whether a POTW treatment plant is an industrial or non-industrial POTW treatment plant, as defined under these regulations, 40 CFR Parts 61 and 63 should be reviewed as they list the various source categories subject to NESHAP. Some examples of the more common types of industries subject to NESHAP include, but are not limited to: hard and decorative chromium electroplating, dry cleaning facilities, gasoline distribution facilities, glass manufacturing, industrial process cooling towers, polymer and epoxy resin manufacturing, printing and publishing, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing, and wood furniture manufacturing.

EPA anticipates the POTW HAP regulations will be finalized in May 1999.

A fuller explanation of HAPs is available for viewing at CET's web site-www.cet-inc.com.

Correction

Last Issue of the *Etcetera* Newsletter, February 1999, was incorrectly marked

Vol. 2, Issue 1.

It should have read,

Vol. 1, Issue 2

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