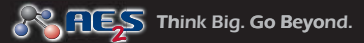


The Update

March 2008



NDSWC Seeks Water Project Information for 2009-2011

The North Dakota State Water Commission has requested project and cost-share information for water projects anticipated to take place in the State of North Dakota during the 2009-2011 biennium. The deadline for submittal is April 18, 2008. The information request worksheet can be downloaded at <http://tinyurl.com/2mwh6o>. ■

IDSE Deadline Approaching for Schedule 4 Systems

April 1 marks the deadline for systems serving less than 10,000 to submit an Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) plan under the Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products Rule (D/DBPR). Systems need to complete one of four options to satisfy the April 1, 2008 deadline: 1) comply under the Very Small System (VSS) Waiver; 2) submit a 40/30 Certification letter; 3) submit a Standard Monitoring Plan (SMP); or 4) submit a System Specific Study (SSS).

A system is eligible for a VSS waiver if it serves less than 500 people and has taken at least one total trihalomethane (TTHM) and one haloacetic acid (HAA5) sample. Systems that can demonstrate eight consecutive quarters of TTHM and HAA5 sampling for which no individual sample exceeded 40 parts per billion (ppb) for TTHM or 30 ppb for HAA5 can apply for 40/30 Certification.

*Completion of an SMP is the default compliance option for the ISDE and involves the submittal of a five-
(continued on back)*

Updated Resources for Water and Wastewater System Security Available

It's been about five years since water systems have completed vulnerability assessments as mandated by the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002. A security-minded mentality appears to be integrated into routine operations as systems in the region and throughout the country have made operational as well as physical changes to facilities. Very good resources have been developed to support this mentality. The WaterISAC website (www.waterisac.org) has been operational for six years, and continues

to provide many good resources for systems. WaterISAC is a not-for-profit organization established by utilities

for utilities with the fundamental purpose of securing water systems and ensuring continuous utility operations in the face of all hazards. Basic subscription to the website is free, and provides members with rapid notification of national water-related alerts and advisories, notification of cyber vulnerabilities, and a quick incident reporting services. The Basic subscriber receives important information from the federal government, which fosters greater awareness of security issues.

In early February, WaterISAC introduced a new "Pro" service level to give its subscribers access to "sensitive" and "For Official Use Only" information and threat warnings. WaterISAC Pro subscribers have special access privileges to an online secure portal that provides time-sensitive information on threats to the nation's water systems. For communities serving less than 50,000 people, annual subscription to Water ISAC Pro is \$200. The annual fee for systems serving 50,000 to 100,000 people is \$500. Upon registration and confirmation of position within the water sector, subscribers receive access to real-time notification of security bulletins, e-newsletters, online resources, mutual aid assistance information, and access to previously distributed security bulletins and notices.

Currently available through WaterISAC is a publication entitled "Protecting the Water Sector From Security Threats: The Emerging Legal and Policy Frameworks". Sponsored jointly by the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Water Environment Federation, and the American Public Works Association, this resource provides a comprehensive overview of legal considerations for clean water utilities and other members of the water sector with regard to protecting the public from terrorist attacks and associated consequences. The publication includes a "Quick Reference Checklist" which provides clean water managers and attorneys with a quick way to identify the major security issues they need to consider for their facilities. It also provides a quick reference on where to find more detailed information about a specific issue in the publication. For more information about WaterISAC and its Basic and Pro services, visit www.WaterISAC.org. ■

(IDSE Deadline from first page)

page form justifying the proposed sampling sites and monitoring schedule along with a distribution system map. Lastly, the SSS option is available for systems that have a mathematical model of the distribution system that can be used to predict THM and HAA5 concentrations at various locations within the system. ■

No Effluent Limits for WTPs at this Time

Last year, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated a survey to collect a variety of technical, financial, and environmental data from drinking water treatment utilities to support the development of effluent guidelines for the drinking water treatment point source category and to quantify environmental impacts, evaluate treatment technologies, and estimate pollutant removals and compliance costs for the proposed rule. In mid-February of this year, EPA announced its decision not to set effluent limits for drinking water treatment facilities at this time, citing a desire to focus on higher priority technology-based regulations. ■

Draft CCL3 Includes Nitrosamines, PFOA

On February 21, EPA published the draft Third Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List (CCL3), requesting comment from the public by May 21, 2008. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that EPA identify priority contaminants for regulatory decision making and information collection. Following extensive evaluation of the contaminants, EPA is required to make regulatory determinations for at least five contaminants from the most recent CCL every five years. A regulatory determination is a formal decision on whether a national primary drinking water regulation should be developed for a specific contaminant. Contaminants identified on the CCLs are currently unregulated by existing regulations but are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems and are suspected of impacting public health. The first CCL (CCL1) was published in 1998 and the draft CCL2 followed in 2005. Preliminary findings on CCL2, which included a decision not to regulate 11 contaminant candidates and to delay a decision on perchlorate and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), are anticipated to be finalized during the summer of 2008.

Development of the CCL3 was based on expert input and recommendations from the National Academy of Science's National Research Council (NRC) and the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC), as well as detailed evaluation of occurrence and health effects. After considering approximately 7,500 potential chemical and microbial contaminants, 104 were selected. The final list includes 11 microbial contaminant candidates and 93 chemical contaminant candidates, including repeat candidates (from CCL2) acetochlor, alachlor, metolachlor, perchlorate, and MTBE. Among the new contaminants on CCL3 are five nitrosamines and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Nitrosamines have been identified as byproducts of chloramine disinfection and ion exchange treatment, and PFOA is an industrial chemical. The CCL3 retains only two of the nine microbial contaminant candidates on the CCL2 (caliciviruses and *Helicobacter pylori*) and adds nine new ones, including *E. coli* (0157), Hepatitis A virus, and *Legionella*. A fact sheet and complete list for the CCL3 can be found at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccl/pdfs/fs_ccl3.pdf. ■

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