United States
Environmental Protection Agency | Office of Water 4607 | EPA 815-F-97-001 October 1997

EPA DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANT CANDIDATE LIST- *OPEN FOR COMMENT*

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), as amended in 1996, requires that, when selecting drinking water contaminants for regulation, the Environmental Protection Agency gives priority to those that present the greatest public health concern, especially to vulnerable populations such as infants, the elderly and those with serious illness. To achieve this, we are developing a Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List (CLL). We have published a draft list in the October 6, 1997 *Federal Register* (62 FR 52193) and seek input from the public before finalizing it by February 1998.

What is the Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List?

The CCL is a list of contaminants known or anticipated to occur in public water systems. Contaminants listed on the CCL will undergo a selection process which will determine our priorities for research, guidance and possible regulation. At the time of publication, these contaminants are not subject to any proposed or promulgated national primary drinking water regulation (NPDWR), but they may require regulation under the SDWA. The draft CCL was developed with considerable input from the scientific community and other interested parties. It is currently open for comment and will be finalized no later than February 1998. A new CCL will be published every five years.

If a candidate is on the list, will it be regulated?

Not necessarily. If a contaminant is listed on the CCL, a team of scientists and other experts will use the list to

- select contaminants for possible regulation, guidance development and health advisories,
- monitor when and where these contaminants occur and where more data is needed,
- determine our research priorities.

By 2001, EPA must select five or more candidates from the CCL and determine whether or not to regulate them. This determination is based on whether regulating the contaminant would present a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction. In addition to selecting candidates for possible regulation, we will identify a maximum of 30 contaminants from the list for unregulated monitoring. This data will be used in our drinking water research.

How were the contaminants identified for the draft Contaminant List, and who was involved in the process?

In December 1996, the EPA called a meeting of the new National Drinking Water Advisory Committee (NDWAC) Working Group on Occurrence and Contaminant Selection. The working group includes representatives of public water utilities, environmental and public interest groups, state regulatory agencies, public health offices, and other interested parties. At the December stakeholders meeting, the group suggested using the following criteria identify candidates:

- Does the contaminant adversely affect public health?
- Is the contaminant known or substantially likely to occur in public water systems with a frequency and at levels posing a threat to public health?

When will the CCL be finalized, and what happens next?

The CCL will be published no later than February 1998, after the public has the opportunity to comment. Once the CCL is finalized, the next step will be to select five or more contaminants and determine whether or not a regulation is needed. This step will be followed by proposal and ultimate promulgation of regulations for those contaminants where a determination has been made to regulate. The CCL will be revised every five years, with considerable input from the public, and the regulatory selection process will repeat.

What other tools will EPA use in its contaminant selection process?

In developing future CCLs, the EPA will use the **National Contaminant Occurrence Database** (NCOD) and a new regulation for **Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring** (UCM). EPA is working to establish both the NCOD and the UCM regulation by August 1999, as required by SDWA. The database will include the occurrence of both regulated and unregulated contaminants. It will provide the basis for identifying contaminants that may be placed on future CCLs and support the EPA Administrator's decisions to regulate contaminants in the future. The database is also expected to support the review of existing regulations and monitoring requirements every six years.

EPA is required by the SDWA, as amended in 1996, to list and develop regulations for monitoring of certain unregulated contaminants by August 1999, and every 5 years thereafter [Section 1445(a)(2)]. The list must not exceed 30. Contaminants on the CCL that need additional occurrence data will be used as the source of contaminants for the list of unregulated contaminants. Data will be collected and maintained in the National Drinking Water Contaminant Occurrence Database. Criteria for determining which contaminants on the CCL will be chosen for the unregulated contaminant monitoring list will be developed as part of this regulation.

How can I get involved?

Send us your comments -- we need your input! We are specifically looking for comments on (1) the approach we used to create this list and suggestions on our process for future lists; (2) contaminants on the list; (3) data needs categories (refer to the Federal Register notice); and (4) whether to include perchlorate on the CCL. Comments must be received or postmarked by midnight December 5, 1997. To submit comments by mail, send an original and three copies of your comments and enclosures (including references), in hard copy or on a disc in WordPerfect 5.1 or ASCII file format, to

Comment Clerk
Docket Number W-97-11
Water Docket (MC4101)
USEPA, 401 M. St., SW
Washington, DC, 20460

To submit comments electronically (you can do this at Federal Depository Libraries):

- Use ASCII format,
- Avoid using special characters and any form of encryption,
- **Specify the docket number W-97-11,**
- **Send to: ow-docket@epamail.epa.gov.**

Draft Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List

Inorganic Contaminants (8)

Aluminum	7429-90-5
Boron	7440-42-8
Manganese	7439-96-5
Nickel	
Zinc	7440-66-6
Sodium	7440-23-5
Vanadium	7440-62-2
Sulfate	

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (26)

1,1,2,2-tetra-chloroethane	79-34-5
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	95-63-6
1,1-dichloro-ethane	75-34-3
1,1-dichloro-propene	563-58-6
1,2-diphenylhydrazine	122-66-7
1,3-dichloropropane	142-28-9
2,4,6-trichlorophenol	88-06-2
2,2-dichloro-propane	594-20-7
2,4-dichlorophenol	120-83-2
2,4-dinitrophenol	51-28-5
2,4-dinitrotoluene	121-14-2
2,6-dinitrotoluene	606-20-2
2,6-di-tert-butyl -p-benzoquinone	719-22-2
2-methyl-Phenol (o-cresol)	95-48-7
Acetone	67-64-1
Bromobenzene	108-86-1
Cumene (isopropylbenzene)	98-82-8
p-Cymene (p-isopropyltoluene)	99-87-6
Hexachloro-butadiene	87-68-3
Methyl bromide	74-83-9
Methyl-t-butyl ether (MTBE)	1634-04-4
Naphthalene	91-20-3
Nitrobenzene	98-95-3
Organo tins	
RDX	121-82-4
Rhodamine WT	

Pesticides (24)

1,3-Dichloropropene (telone or 1,3-D)	542-75-6
Acetochlor	34256-82-1
Alachlor ESA (a degradation product of the pesticide alachlor)	

Pesticides, continued...

Alidcarb, Aldicarb sulfoxide, Aldicarb sulfone)	
Aldrin	309-00-2
Atrazine-desethyl (a triazine dedgradation product)	6190-65-4
Cyanazine	21725-46-2
DCPA mono-acid degradate	887-54-7
DCPA di-acid degradate	2136-79-0
DDE	72-55-9
Diazinon	333-41-5
Dieldrin	60-57-1
Dimethoate	60-51-5
Disulfoton	298-04-4
Diuron	330-54-1
EPTC	759-94-5
Fonofos	944-22-9
Linuron	330-55-2
Metolachlor	51218-45-2
Metribuzin	21087-64-9
Molinate	2212-67-1
*Perchlorate	
Prometon	1610-18-0
Terbacil	5902-51-2
Terbufos	13071-79-9

Microbiological Contaminants (13)

Acanthamoeba (guidance expected for contact lens wearers)
adenoviruses
Aeromonas hydrophila
caliciviruses
coxsackieviruses
Cyclospora cayetanensis
echoviruses
Helicobacter pylori
hepatitis A virus
Legionella (in ground water)
Microsporidia (Enterocytozoon & Septata)
Mycobacterium avium intracellulare (MAC)
Toxoplasma gondii

* Under evaluation for addition to the CCL. See *Federal Register* notice for details.

Figure 1. Illustration of Decision Tool Used to Develop the Draft Contaminant Candidate List