



FY 2008
3rd Quarter
Report

Water Lines

SDW Hotline Report

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Top Ten Caller Topics

Topic	Number of Questions	Percent of Total* Questions
CCR	849	14%
Local Drinking Water Quality	642	11%
Tap Water Testing	451	8%
Other	344	6%
Home Water Treatment Units	305	5%
MCL List	301	5%
Lead	276	5%
Cryptosporidium	230	4%
PWS Complaints	204	3%
Bottled Water	190	3%

*A total of 5,899 questions from callers were answered by the Hotline in the 3rd Quarter of FY 2008.

**Citizens who obtain their drinking water from private household wells asked 10 percent of the tap water testing questions.

Calls and ECSS Questions and Comments

Calls***	ECSS Questions****	Total
2,850	204	3,054

***A single call may generate multiple questions.

**** Questions registered through EPA's Enterprise Customer Service Solution knowledge base at the OGWDW Web site.

Published Quarterly

See past reports at

<http://intranet.epa.gov/ow/hotline>

Safe Drinking Water Hotline: National

Toll-free No.: (800) 426-4791

For More Information Contact:

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(202) 564-4621

Operated by

The Track Group / Booz Allen Hamilton

Under Contract #GS-23F-0135N/1140

What's New

New Publications/Resources:

Getting Started with CUPPS: A Workbook for Users (EPA816-R-08-005) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/cupss/pdf/workbook_cupss_getstarted.pdf.

CUPPS User's Guide (EPA816-R-08-003) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/cupss/pdf/guide_cupss_user.pdf.

CUPPS Trainer's Guide (EPA816-R-08-004) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/cupss/pdf/guide_cupss_trainers.pdf.

Asset Management: A Best Practices Guide (EPA816-F-08-014) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/smallsystems/pdfs/guide_smallsystems_assetmanagement_bestpractices.pdf.

Asset Management for Local Officials (EPA816-F-08-015) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/smallsystems/pdfs/guide_smallsystems_assetmanagement_localofficials.pdf.

Building an Asset Management Team (EPA816-F-08-016) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/smallsystems/pdfs/guide_smallsystems_assetmanagement_teammanagement.pdf.

Supplement to the Fifth Edition of the Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water (EPA815-F-08-006) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/methods/laboratorycertification.html.

Draft Technical Guidance Manual for the Proposed Aircraft Drinking Water Rule (EPA816-D-08-003) is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/airlinewater/regs.html.

Did You Know?

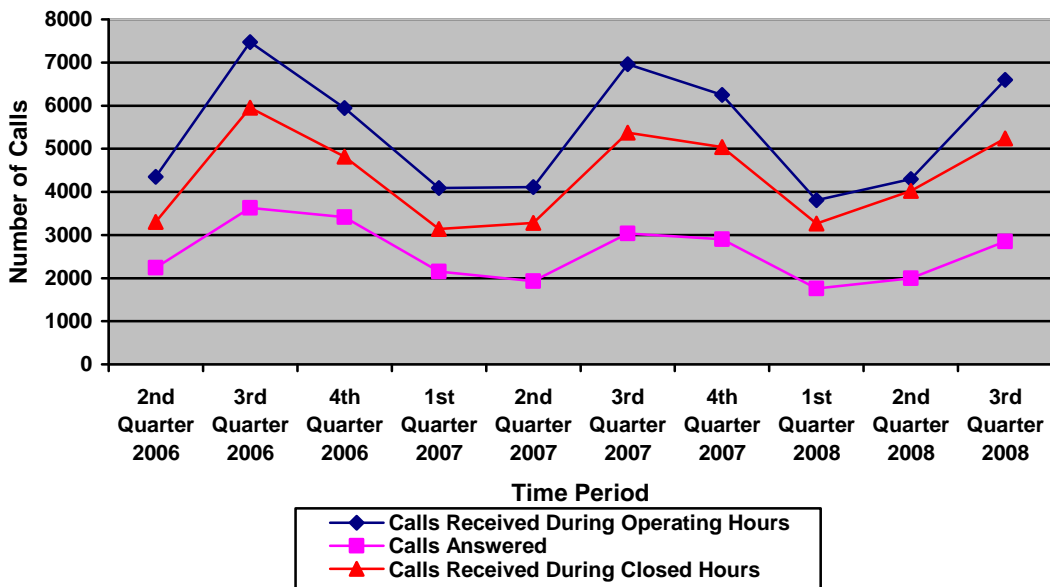
EPA estimates that approximately 10,000 schools and child care facilities maintain their own water supply and are therefore regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Calendar:

Who?	What?	Where?	When?	More Information
EPA	Meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee	Conference Call	July 18, 2008	
EPA	Meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee	Washington, DC	June 18 and 19, 2008	
NDWAC	Public Meeting	Tucson, AZ	June 3 and 4, 2008	
EPA	Meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee	Washington, DC	May 21 and 22, 2008	
EPA	Drinking Water Security Workshops	Various	On-going	www.epa.gov/safewater/security
DWA	SDW Regulatory Compliance Training	Various	On-going	www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/calendar.html

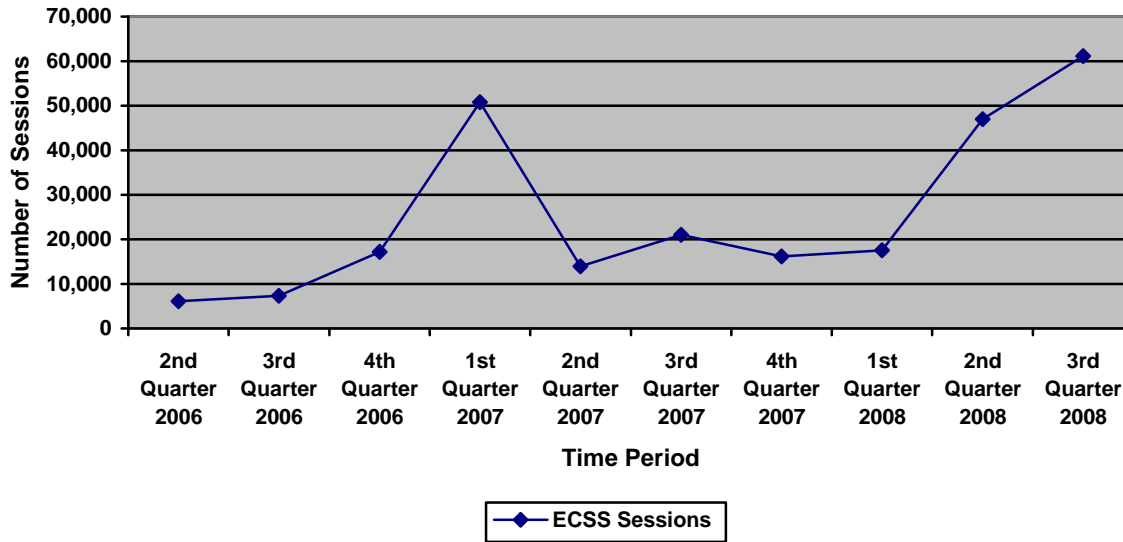
Quarterly Trend

Safe Drinking Water Hotline Call Volume



The above graph shows the number of calls received during operating hours, the number of calls received during closed hours, and the number of calls answered by Hotline Information Specialists. The Hotline generally receives the most calls during the 3rd quarter of every fiscal year (April, May, June) as Consumer Confidence Reports begin to arrive at consumer homes. The 3rd quarter of 2008 continues this trend. As in every quarter, the difference in the number of calls received during operating hours and the calls answered by Information Specialists can be attributed to several reasons. Many callers choose to disconnect the call, while others receive the information they need from one of the phone system messages, thus never speaking with an Information Specialist. Others may have elected to be transferred directly to the Water Systems Council (WSC). During the 3rd Quarter of 2008, 739 callers chose to be transferred directly to the WSC and phone tree messages were listened to over 2,600 times.

Safe Drinking Water ECSS Interface Sessions



During the 3rd Quarter of 2008, the Safe Drinking Water ECSS Interface experienced over 60,000 sessions. A session is defined as, “the use of the end-user pages. A session ends when the end-user, submits an Ask a Question request, leaves the end-user pages, or a two-hour period of time has elapsed, whichever comes first”. There is a considerable increase in daily sessions (see ECSS Service Summary table) beginning in mid May. Prior to May 18th, ECSS sessions averaged 216 per day. After this date, daily sessions increased to 1,159 on average. The spike in daily sessions and the overall increase for the quarter can be attributed to the public water system customers looking for additional information after receiving their Consumer Confidence Report, which are required to be delivered by July 1.

Frequently Asked Qs & As

This section provides answers to frequently asked questions not necessarily represented in one of the Top Ten Topic categories.

Q: Does EPA have a program to simplify the process of preparing a Public Notification (PN)?

A: To assist water systems in developing a PN, EPA has developed the PN iWriter program, which allows water systems to input data and generate Public Notifications that are compliant with federal regulations. The tool also allows the user to insert and edit EPA recommended text. The PN iWriter is a web-based tool and is intended for use by those systems with internet access. There is no CD available. PN iWriter is available at www.pniwriter.org.

Q: What distance does EPA recommend between a household drinking water well and a septic system?

A: Due to the presence of nitrates and bacteria in septic tanks, EPA recommends a distance of at least 50 feet between a newly constructed well and a septic system. In addition, household owners should contact local and state health departments for regulations and guidance on placement and construction of private wells (*Drinking Water from Household Wells*, EPA816-K-02-003, January 2002). Additional information on household wells is available at www.epa.gov/safewater/privatewells.

Q: How is the drinking water aboard cruise ships regulated?

A: Cruise ships operating under the American flag using domestic waters must comply with federal drinking water regulations and, if pertinent, state drinking water regulations. These vessels are considered interstate carrier conveyances comparable to airlines or railroads.

Cruise ships that sail in international waters are under the purview of the CDC's Vessel Sanitation Program. Information about the Vessel Sanitation Program is available at www.cdc.gov/nceh/vsp/default.htm.

Q: What is the Check Up Program for Small Systems (CUPSS)?

A: CUPSS is a free desktop program developed by EPA to facilitate and prioritize asset management for small systems. The user-friendly desktop program requires no internet connection and minimal software. Water systems can use the CUPSS program to integrate

asset management activities into utility practices. CUPSS and resources for using the program are available at www.epa.gov/cupss.

Q: During a boil water advisory, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Web site recommends cleaning and sanitizing food preparation equipment, tableware, and utensils with commercially-bottled water, water hauled from an approved public water system, water from a licensed drinking water hauler truck, or water that has been disinfected for *Cryptosporidium* through boiling. If tableware has been washed with water contaminated with *Cryptosporidium*, can the tableware then be microwaved to ensure deactivation of the microorganism that may be left on the tableware?

A: The research on microwave effectiveness for inactivating *Cryptosporidium* is inconclusive; however, more studies show that it is ineffective. It is recommended to follow the CDC tableware cleaning guidelines, which include washing dishes with boiled water.

Q: During a boil water advisory or other disaster that may cause tap water to be unsafe to drink, can water from a swimming pool or water bed be used for drinking?

A: Water from swimming pools and water beds should not be for drinking because it may contain harmful contaminants. Sources of water that can be used in emergencies include bottled water, ice cubes, rainwater collected in food grade containers and then boiled, and water collected from hot water heaters or toilet tanks (not the bowl) and then boiled (*Disaster Readiness Fact Kit; Emergency Drinking Water Treatment*, NSF International).

Quarterly Summary of Hotline Service

Total number of calls received	11,841
Total number of calls answered	2,850
ECSS comments and questions requiring a response	204
Average wait time (in seconds)	
Percent of calls satisfied immediately	99.9%
Percent of all calls answered in < 5 min	94.3%
Percent of callbacks answered in 5 days	100%
Number of times callers were transferred to the WSC Wellcare Hotline	739
Number of times callers listened to recorded message about CCRs	765
Number of times callers listened to recorded message about local drinking water quality for PWS customers	668
Number of times callers listened to recorded message about tap water testing and quality for household well owners	366
Number of times callers listened to recorded message about tap water testing for PWS customers	898

Comparison to Previous Quarter

	Calls Answered	ECSS Questions and Comments
3rd Quarter FY 2008	2,850	204
2nd Quarter FY 2008	1,993	201

Top Ten Referrals

Inquiry Referred to:	Number of Referrals	Percent of Total* Referrals
Local Water System	566	23
State Laboratory Certification Officer	414	17
NSF/WQA/UL	339	14
State Public Water System Supervisor	278	12
EPA Internet	202	8
FDA/IBWA	112	5
AGWT/WSC	96	4
Other	81	3
Local Public Health	73	3
Other Hotlines	47	2

*A total of 2,406 referrals to other resources, agencies, and organizations were provided by the Hotline in the 3rd Quarter of FY 2008.

Caller Profiles

Customer	Calls
Analytical Laboratories	17
Citizen - Private Well	185
Citizen - PWS	2,150
Consultants/Industry/Trade (DW)	80
Consultants/Industry/Trade (Other)	36
Environmental Groups	4
EPA	8
Other Federal Agency	5
Government, Local	8
Government, State	15
Government, Tribal	2
Spanish Speaking	39
International	1
Media	12
Medical Professional	14
Public Water System	166
Schools/University	14
Other	94
TOTALS	2,850

ECSS Activities

Topic	Number of Questions and Comments
Analytical Methods	4
Arsenic	5
Bottled Water	13
Compliance/Issues (PWS)	17
Consumer Concerns	23
Contaminants and Standards	16
Definitions	1
Facts, Figures, and Databases	4
Household Wells	17
Other	53
Local Drinking Water Quality	26
Long Term 2 ESWT Rule	4
Source Water Protection	4
Stage 2 D/DBP Rule	11
Tap Water Testing	3
Underground Injection Cntrl	3
TOTALS	204

Caller Question Topics

Topics	Number of Questions
Microbials/Disinfection Byproducts	
Chlorine	76
Coliforms	147
Cryptosporidium	230
Disinfection/Disinfection Byproducts (Other)	31
Long Term 2 ESWTR	51
Other Microbials	129
Stage 2 D/DBPR	23
Surface Water Treatment (SWTR, ESWTR, LT1FBR)	8
Trihalomethane (THM)	34
Home Water Disinfection	130
Home Water Storage	11
Inorganic Chemicals (IOC)/Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC)	
Arsenic	62
Fluoride	59
Methyl- <i>tertiary</i> -butyl-ether (MTBE)	8
Perchlorate	4
Phase I, II & V	14
Sodium Monitoring	17
Sulfate	6
Lead and Copper	
Copper	55
Lead	276
Lead Contamination Control Act (LCCA)/Lead Ban	11
Radionuclides	
Radionuclides (Other)	39
Radionuclides (Radon)	71
Secondary DW Regulations	
Secondary DW Regulations	182
SDWA Background/Overview	
Definitions & Applicability	23
MCL List	301
Other Background	344
SDWA	182

Topics	Number of Questions
Water on Tap	2
Other DW Regulations	
Analytical Methods (DW)	20
Contaminant Candidate List/ Drinking Water Priority List	21
Consumer Confidence Report (DW)	849
DW Primacy (PWS)	15
Operator (PWS) Certification	3
Other Drinking Water Security	4
Public Notification (PWS)	165
Security Planning Grants	0
State Revolving Fund (DW)	4
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)	22
Other Drinking Water	
Additives Program	13
Bottled Water	190
Complaints about PWS	204
Compliance & Enforcement (PWS)	108
Home Water Treatment Units	305
Infrastructure/Cap. Development	6
Local DW Quality	642
Tap Water Testing	451
Treatment/BATs (DW)	3
Drinking Water Source Protection	
Ground Water Rule	5
Sole Source Aquifer	3
Source Water/Wellhead Protection	21
UIC Program	7
Out of Purview	
Household Wells	138
Non-Environmental	61
Non-EPA Environmental	56
Other EPA (Programs)	57
TOTALS	5,899

EPA DISCLAIMER

Answers to questions in the Safe Drinking Water Hotline quarterly report are intended to be purely informational and are based on SDWA provisions, EPA regulations, guidance, and established policy effective at the time of publication. The answers given reflect EPA staff's best judgment at the time and do not represent a final or official EPA interpretation. This report does not substitute for the applicable provisions of statutes and regulations, guidance, etc., nor is it a regulation itself. Thus, it does not impose legally-binding requirements on EPA, States, or the regulated community. An answer to a question in this report may be revised at any time to reflect EPA's revisions to existing regulations, changes in EPA's approach to interpreting its regulations or statutory authority, or for other reasons. EPA may provide a different answer to a question in this report in the future.

Also, an answer provided in this report may not apply to a particular situation based upon the circumstances. Any decisions regarding a particular case will be made based on the applicable statutes and regulations. Therefore, interested parties are free to raise questions and objections about the appropriateness of the application of an answer in this report to a particular situation, and EPA will consider whether or not the recommendations or interpretations in the answer are accurate and appropriate in that situation. The information in this report is not intended, nor can it be relied upon, to create any rights enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States.

ECSS Service Summary

Date	Searches	Answers Viewed	Sessions	Hits	Web Questions
4/1/2008	160	79	215	422	3
4/2/2008	564	71	708	795	3
4/3/2008	126	64	187	400	8
4/4/2008	76	958	217	1251	2
4/5/2008	206	522	360	889	0
4/6/2008	310	113	431	545	0
4/7/2008	184	62	256	387	0
4/8/2008	89	89	161	321	4
4/9/2008	361	100	396	643	4
4/10/2008	136	93	172	388	3
4/11/2008	88	73	135	292	3
4/12/2008	91	470	200	691	1
4/13/2008	109	103	272	320	0
4/14/2008	71	510	245	749	1
4/15/2008	97	95	167	359	3
4/16/2008	192	114	182	453	4
4/17/2008	93	70	152	298	2
4/18/2008	141	503	230	791	3
4/19/2008	69	61	176	231	2
4/20/2008	108	73	165	260	0
4/21/2008	129	83	220	327	1
4/22/2008	53	105	145	294	1
4/23/2008	49	62	107	220	1
4/24/2008	69	99	135	335	3
4/25/2008	347	54	435	539	2
4/26/2008	577	443	657	1120	2
4/27/2008	38	33	98	142	1
4/28/2008	213	112	224	479	2
4/29/2008	225	59	232	395	3
4/30/2008	86	59	144	237	0
5/1/2008	45	89	131	256	1
5/2/2008	880	90	920	1076	2
5/3/2008	57	497	92	649	3
5/4/2008	23	47	42	129	2
5/5/2008	41	100	105	263	5
5/6/2008	48	47	77	172	2
5/7/2008	79	135	107	337	3
5/8/2008	108	89	89	295	4
5/9/2008	20	36	65	144	3
5/10/2008	5	36	55	105	2
5/11/2008	39	452	54	564	3
5/12/2008	54	76	61	205	1
5/13/2008	61	87	76	226	0
5/14/2008	15	34	72	131	2
5/15/2008	90	76	86	280	3
5/16/2008	39	29	352	124	1
5/17/2008	8	428	375	494	0
5/18/2008	9	71	721	170	1
5/19/2008	73	82	1798	278	6
5/20/2008	38	66	1387	239	3
5/21/2008	91	195	851	440	1
5/22/2008	73	51	754	201	2

3rd Quarter FY 2008

Date	Searches	Answers Viewed	Sessions	Hits	Web Questions
5/23/2008	62	52	1080	175	2
5/24/2008	10	38	1207	105	1
5/25/2008	18	147	1701	420	1
5/26/2008	67	70	1431	195	1
5/27/2008	48	140	1137	295	2
5/28/2008	103	559	1207	864	4
5/29/2008	65	72	993	206	2
5/30/2008	43	102	915	271	4
5/31/2008	42	52	1113	135	1
6/1/2008	30	39	1308	101	0
6/2/2008	61	905	1379	1146	3
6/3/2008	50	536	1258	749	7
6/4/2008	33	83	1225	195	1
6/5/2008	49	91	1018	198	0
6/6/2008	25	64	965	154	1
6/7/2008	3	27	842	63	0
6/8/2008	36	107	1173	215	0
6/9/2008	81	506	1325	698	2
6/10/2008	101	148	1090	373	5
6/11/2008	100	162	1048	366	2
6/12/2008	91	132	714	318	4
6/13/2008	34	94	979	219	3
6/14/2008	6	34	919	72	0
6/15/2008	18	62	1502	134	1
6/16/2008	63	522	1276	689	1
6/17/2008	109	142	1957	400	6
6/18/2008	96	158	1411	414	4
6/19/2008	85	118	1117	313	0
6/20/2008	75	142	1022	403	8
6/21/2008	16	54	1523	120	1
6/22/2008	26	44	954	120	1
6/23/2008	69	530	1535	718	3
6/24/2008	44	143	1110	370	8
6/25/2008	65	127	1066	320	2
6/26/2008	102	124	986	395	3
6/27/2008	19	67	996	168	2
6/28/2008	12	42	867	100	2
6/29/2008	17	52	826	118	2
6/30/2008	78	937	1318	1192	2
Total	9,005	15,569	61,187	34,858	204

Searches: The number of searches performed.

Answers Viewed: The total number of times Answers were viewed. This represents the number of Answer pages viewed. That is, if only one Answer was selected, but it was viewed ten times, the Answers Viewed value would be ten.

Sessions: The number of sessions for the time unit specified. A session is use of the end-user pages. A session ends when the end-user submits an Ask a Question request, leaves the end-user pages, or a two-hour period of time has elapsed, whichever comes first.

Hits: The number of page turns during the time period selected for the report.

Web Questions: The number of questions generated from an Ask a Question request.

SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE QUARTERLY REPORT

Third Quarter FY 2008

APPENDIX A: FEDERAL REGISTER SUMMARIES

FINAL RULES

“Expedited Approval of Alternative Test Procedures for the Analysis of Contaminants Under the Safe Drinking Water Act; Analysis and Sampling Procedures” June 3, 2008 (73 FR 31616)

EPA announced approval of alternative testing methods for use in measuring the levels of contaminants in drinking water and determining compliance with national primary drinking water regulations. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) authorizes EPA to approve the use of alternative testing methods through publication in the Federal Register. EPA is approving 99 analytical methods for determining contaminant concentrations in samples collected under the SDWA, using this streamlined authority to make these additional methods available for analyzing drinking water samples required by regulation. This expedited approach provides public water systems, laboratories, and primary agencies with more timely access to new measurement techniques and greater flexibility in the selection of analytical methods, thereby reducing monitoring costs while maintaining public health protection. Regulated parties who are required to sample and monitor may use either the testing methods already established in existing regulations or the alternative testing methods being approved in this action. The new methods are listed in Appendix A to Subpart C in 40 CFR 141 and on EPA's drinking water methods Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater/methods/expedited.html.

PROPOSED RULES

“National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Drinking Water Regulations for Aircraft Public Water Systems; Proposed Rule” April 9, 2008 (73 FR 19319)

EPA proposed to amend and consolidate in one place the federal drinking water requirements for aircraft public water systems under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Aircraft public water systems are subject to the requirements of SDWA and the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The existing federal drinking water standards were primarily designed to regulate water quality in stationary public water systems and the application of these requirements to mobile water systems with the capability of flying throughout the world has created implementation challenges. The proposed regulations in 40 CFR Subpart X focuses on total coliform sampling, public notification, operator training, and record keeping.

NOTICES

“Spring 2008 Regulatory Agenda” May 5, 2008 (73 FR 24756)

EPA publishes the semiannual regulatory agenda to update the public about regulations and major policies currently under development, reviews of existing regulations and major policies, and rules and major policies completed or canceled since the last agenda. The Spring 2008

Regulatory Agenda included the following upcoming drinking water actions: Drinking Water Regulations for Aircraft; Contaminant Candidate List (CCL) 3; Regulatory Determinations for CCL 2; Radon Rule; Aldicarb; Underground Injection Control (UIC) Update of State Program Regulatory Citations in CFR; MTBE and Technical Corrections to National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations; Revisions to Total Coliform Monitoring and Analytical Requirements and Additional Distribution Requirements; Six-Year Review of NPDWR; UIC CO2 Geologic Sequestration Wells; and Review of the Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products Rule.

“Meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee--Notice of Public Meeting”

May 7, 2008 (73 FR 25695)

EPA gave notice of a meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee (TCRDSAC). The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Total Coliform Rule (TCR) revision and information about distribution systems issues that may impact water quality.

The TCRDSAC advises and makes recommendations to the Agency on revisions to the TCR, and on what information should be collected, research conducted, and risk management strategies evaluated to better inform distribution system contaminant occurrence and associated public health risks. Topics to be discussed in the meeting include options for revising the TCR.

The public meeting was to be held May 21 and 22, 2008, in Washington, DC.

“Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the State of Arkansas”

May 17, 2008 (73 FR 20923)

Arkansas is revising its approved Public Water System Supervision Program. Arkansas has adopted the Stage 2 Disinfectant and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DDBPR) and the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR). EPA has determined that the proposed Stage 2 DDBPR and LT2ESWTR revisions submitted by Arkansas are no less stringent than the corresponding federal regulations. Therefore, EPA proposes to approve these program revisions.

The effective date for this action was May 19, 2008.

“Navajo Nation; Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program; Proposed Primacy Approval and Minor Revisions”

May 24, 2008 (73 FR 22111)

EPA proposed to approve an application from the Navajo Nation (“Tribe”) under Section 1425 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) for primary enforcement responsibility (or “primacy”) for the underground injection control (UIC) program for Class II (oil and gas-related) injection wells. The proposed approval would cover wells located within the exterior boundaries of the formal Navajo Reservation, including the three satellite reservations (Alamo, Canoncito, and Ramah), but excluding the former Bennett Freeze Area, the Four Corners Power Plant and the Navajo Generating Station; and on Navajo Nation tribal trust and allotted lands outside the exterior boundaries of the formal Navajo Reservation.

“Meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee--Notice of Public Meeting”
June 4, 2008 (73 FR 30866)

EPA gave notice of a public meeting of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee (TCRDSAC). The TCRDSAC advises and makes recommendations to the Agency on revisions to the TCR, and on what information should be collected, research conducted, and/or risk management strategies evaluated to better inform distribution system contaminant occurrence and associated public health risks. Topics to be discussed in the meeting include options for revising the Total Coliform Rule; for example, rule construct, monitoring provisions, system categories, action levels, investigation and follow-up, public notification, and other related topics. In addition, the Committee will discuss possible recommendations for research and information collection needs concerning distribution systems and topics for upcoming TCRDSAC meetings.

The public meeting was to be held on June 18 and 19, 2008, in Washington, DC.

“Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; EPA Strategic Plan Information on Source Water Protection (Renewal)”
June 5, 2008 (73 FR 32023)

The 2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan incorporates a source water contamination prevention measure to describe the voluntary source water protection (SWP) actions taken at the local or regional level based on the results of completed source water assessments. EPA's strategic target for SWP sets a goal of minimized risk to public health in 50 percent of community water systems (CWSs) and the 62 percent of the population served by those CWSs by 2011. Achieving minimized risk to public health focuses on developing and substantially implementing SWP strategies to address potential contamination risks within each CWS source water area.

EPA is collecting, on a voluntary basis, data from the states on their progress toward substantial implementation of prevention strategies for all CWS SWAs. While Section 1453(a)(3) of the SDWA does not authorize source water protection, states are encouraged to use the data collected in the source water assessments to develop protection plans for source water areas. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund monies authorized in Section 1452(g)(2)(B) may be used for activities to support efforts in source water protection.

“Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Public Water System Supervision Program (Renew)”
June 6, 2008 (73 FR 32325)

The Public Water System Supervision Program Renewal Information Collection Request (ICR) examines public water system, primacy agency, EPA, and tribal operator certification provider burden and costs for “cross-cutting” recordkeeping and reporting requirements (i.e., the burden and costs for complying with drinking water information requirements that are not associated with contaminant-specific rulemakings). These activities which have recordkeeping and reporting requirements that are mandatory for compliance with 40 CFR Parts 141 and 142 include the following: Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs), Primacy Regulation Activities,

Variance and Exemption Rule (V/E Rule), General State Primacy Activities, Public Notification (PN) and Proficiency Testing Studies for Drinking Water Laboratories. The information collection activities for both the Operator Certification/Expense Reimbursement Program and the Capacity Development Program are driven by the grant withholding and reporting provisions under Sections 1419 and 1420, respectively, of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Although the Tribal Operator Certification Program is voluntary, the information collection is driven by grant eligibility requirements outlined in the Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant Tribal Set-Aside Program Final Guidelines and the Tribal Drinking Water Operator Certification Program Guidelines.

**“Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Microbial Rules (Renewal)”
June 6, 2008 (73 FR 32323)**

The Microbial Rules Renewal ICR examines public water system, primacy agency, and EPA burden and costs for recordkeeping and reporting requirements in support of the microbial drinking water regulations. These recordkeeping and reporting requirements are mandatory for compliance with 40 CFR Parts 141 and 142. The following microbial regulations are included: Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR), Total Coliform Rule (TCR), Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR), Filter Backwash Recycling Rule (FBRR), Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT1ESWTR), Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR), and Ground Water Rule. Future microbial-related rulemakings will be added to this consolidated ICR after the regulations are finalized and the initial, rule-specific, ICRs are due to expire.

**“Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts, Chemical and Radionuclides Rules (Renewal)”
June 26, 2008 (73 FR 36319)**

The Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts, Chemical and Radionuclides Rules ICR examines public water system (PWS), primacy agency, and EPA burden and costs for recordkeeping and reporting requirements in support of the chemical drinking water regulations. These recordkeeping and reporting requirements are mandatory for compliance with 40 CFR Parts 141 and 142. The following chemical regulations are included: Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 1 DBPR), Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 DBPR), Chemical Phase Rules (Phases II/IIB/V), 1976 Radionuclides Rule, and 2000 Radionuclides Rule, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Rule, Disinfectant Residual Monitoring and Associated Activities under the Surface Water Treatment Rule, Arsenic Rule, Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) and revisions. Future chemical-related rulemakings, such as Radon, will be added to this consolidated ICR after the regulations are finalized and the initial, rule-specific ICRs are due to expire.

**“Notice of Tentative Approval and Solicitation of Request for a Public Hearing for Public Water System Supervision Program Revisions for the State of West Virginia”
June 17, 2008 (73 FR 34304)**

West Virginia has adopted regulations for the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule to improve public health protection through the control of microbiological contaminants by

targeting additional Cryptosporidium treatment requirements to higher risk systems, and for the Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products Rule to reduce exposure to disinfection by-products (DBP) by requiring systems to meet maximum contaminant levels as an average at each compliance monitoring location, rather than as a system-wide average, for two groups of DBPs, trihalomethanes (TTHM) and five haloacetic acids (HAA5). EPA has determined that these revisions are no less stringent than the corresponding federal regulations. Therefore, EPA has decided to tentatively approve these program revisions.

The effective date for this action was July 17, 2008.

**“Notice of Approval of the Primacy Application for National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for the State of Missouri”
June 18, 2008 (73 FR 34741)**

EPA announced the approval of an application by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to incorporate the following EPA National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Public Water System Definition as Amended by 1996 SDWA Amendments; Disinfection Byproducts Rule and Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, Lead and Copper Rule Minor Revisions, Public Notification Rule, Radionuclides Rule, Arsenic Rule and Clarifications to Compliance and New Source Contaminants Monitoring Rule, Filter Backwash Recycling Rule, and the Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. The application demonstrates that Missouri has adopted drinking water regulations which satisfy the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. EPA has determined that Missouri’s regulations are no less stringent than the corresponding Federal regulations and that Missouri continues to meet all requirements for primary enforcement responsibility as specified in 40 CFR 142.10.

The effective date for this action was July 18, 2008.

**“Conference Call of the Total Coliform Rule Distribution System Advisory Committee--
Notice of Public Conference Call”
June 27, 2008 (73 FR 36501)**

EPA announced a public conference call meeting of the TCRDSAC on July 18, 2008, in Washington, DC. The TCRDSAC advises and makes recommendations to the Agency on revisions to the TCR, and on what information should be collected, research conducted, and/or risk management strategies evaluated to better inform distribution system contaminant occurrence and associated public health risk. Topics to be discussed during the conference call include options for revising the Total Coliform Rule; for example, rule construct, monitoring provisions, system categories, action levels, investigation and follow-up, public notification, and other related topics. In addition, the Committee will discuss possible recommendations for research and information collection needs concerning distribution systems and topics for upcoming TCRDSAC meetings.