WHAT’S NEW IN DRINKING WATER REGULATION?

WESTCAS Fall Conference
Regulatory Session October 30, 2014
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ACTIVE ITEMS

- Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3)
- EPA Regulatory Determination 3 (RD3)
- Strontium (Sr)
- Chromium-6 (Cr-6)
- Arsenic (As)
- Carcinogenic VOC’s (cVOC)
- Cyanobacteria
UCMR3

- 30 contaminants
  - List 1: 21 VOCs, metals, fire retardants, DBPs
  - List 2: 7 hormones
  - List 3: 2微生物als
- Complete testing by 12/31/15
- Current Top Hits (PWS’s with results >reference concentration)
  - 1,2,3-TCP (1.7%)
  - 1,4-Dioxane (6.8%)
  - Vanadium (3.4%)
  - Strontium (1.0%)
  - Chlorate (35%)
  - Chromium-6 (76%\(^1\))

\(^1\) – No federal reference concentration exists; used California Public Health Goal (0.02 ppb) instead.
RD3

- Contaminant Candidate List 3 (116 contaminants)
- Preliminary determination (5 contaminants)
  - No regulation
    - 1,3-dinitrobenzene
    - Dimethoate
    - Terbufos
    - Terbufos sulfone
  - Regulate
    - Strontium (Sr)
- Chlorate and nitrosamines - assessed next year during M/DBP Rule 6-year review
- Public Comments due 12/19/14
- EPA plans to issue final determination in 2015
STRONTIUM

- Naturally occurring mostly as Sr-88
- Can replace calcium in bones (like fluoride)
- Historical advisory level is 4.2 mg/L
- New rodent studies – advisory level of 1.5 mg/L
- No carcinogenicity data available
- Final determination in 2015
- Proposed MCLG/MCL could come 24 months later
- Cation exchange resin likely effective
**CHROMIUM-6**

- **California**
  - Cr-6 Drinking Water MCL of 10 ppb effective 7/1/14
  - Initial compliance monitoring by 1/1/15
  - Sources at about 500 PWS’s expected to exceed MCL
  - BAT is IX, RCF and RO
  - Treatment cost generally $500-700/AF
  - ACWA to sponsor 2015 legislation – compliance period

- **Federal**
  - EPA’s Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment delayed
  - Data availability requests – reference documents listed
  - Will consider more recent rodent studies than Cal-EPA
  - Bi-monthly IRIS meeting October 29-30 discussing Cr-6 risk
ARSENIC

- EPA updating IRIS assessment
- EPA’s 1998 assessment did not consider risks separately for early life stages
- Cal-EPA assessment order of magnitude difference; resulted in 0.004 ppb public health goal
- Expect draft IRIS assessment in 2015
Carcinogenic VOC’s

- 2011 EPA decision to group cVOC’s
  - May co-occur
  - Same treatment
  - Same analytical method

- 16 cVOC’s
  - 8 Regulated – benzene; carbon tetrachloride; 1,2-dichloroethane; 1,2-dichloropropane; dichloromethane; tetrachloroethylene; trichloroethylene and vinyl chloride
  - 8 Unregulated - aniline; benzyl chloride; 1,3-butadiene; 1,1-dichloroethane; nitrobenzene; oxirane methyl; 1,2,3-trichloropropane and urethane

- EPA expected to release “regulatory process” in late 2014
CYANOBACTERIA

- Blue-green algae (microcystins)
- Blooms release cyanotoxins
- CCL2 contaminant
- WHO health advisory = 1.0 ug/L
- EPA now developing health advisory level
THE SIMPLE DAYS

QUESTIONS?