

"Perchlorate Forum", specify which meeting you will attend and provide your name, organization, title, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, and e-mail address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information on forum logistics, please contact the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Perchlorate is used as an oxidizer component in solid propellant (fuel) for rockets, missiles, and fireworks. It is very soluble in water, mobile in aqueous systems and can persist for many decades under typical ground water and surface water conditions. Recent (April 1997) advances in the analytical detection capability for low concentrations of perchlorate, from 400 to 4 parts per billion (ppb), have led to the discovery of the chemical at various manufacturing sites and some drinking water supply wells of communities in California, Nevada, and Utah. Perchlorate has been found in ground water at six Superfund hazardous waste sites in California, at six other California non-Superfund waste sites, two sites in the Henderson, Nevada area, one site in Utah, and in the discharge to a creek in Texas. Water suppliers in both northern and southern California, and the Las Vegas Water Authority have found perchlorate in their water supplies generally at levels less than 18 ppb but ranging as high as 280 ppb, with several in the 100–200 ppb range. Perchlorate has also been detected at low levels (5 to 9 ppb) in the Colorado River.

Concerns have been raised about perchlorate because of the lack of adequate scientific information about the contaminant, including: where the contamination occurs, what reliable methods exist to detect it in various media, what the potential health effects are, and what treatment technologies exist. Historically, potassium perchlorate was used therapeutically to treat hyperthyroidism in Graves' Disease patients because it inhibits iodine uptake and thereby reduces thyroid hormone production. Thyroid hormone deficiencies can affect normal metabolism, growth, and development.

Currently, perchlorate does not have a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) or Health Advisory (HA) established. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), as amended in 1996, EPA is required to develop a list of contaminants, known as the Contaminant Candidate List (CCL), that are known or anticipated to

occur in public water systems and may require regulation under SDWA (section 1412(b)(1)). As a result of public comment on a draft of the CCL published on October 6, 1998 (62 FR 52193), perchlorate was added to the final CCL that was published on March 2, 1998 (63 FR 10274). At this time, additional research on health effects, effective treatment technologies, analytical methods, and occurrence is necessary before a determination can be made of whether to regulate perchlorate with an NPDWR or to develop guidance.

B. Request for Public Involvement

The IPSC is encouraging development of a sound research and management strategy by the involved government agencies through facilitating identification of the issues concerning perchlorate contamination and by coordinating information exchange to ensure the incorporation of the best available science and stakeholder input on technical and policy issues.

The stakeholder forum will cover a broad range of topics including: (1) key exposure characterization issues (occurrence and sites of known contamination, transport and transformation, analytical methods); (2) perchlorate health risk assessment (health effects and toxicology studies, the peer review process); (3) key technical assessments (treatment technologies, waste stream handling); (4) ecological impacts; (5) regulatory and policy issues and; (6) future stakeholder involvement. Background materials on perchlorate issues will be sent in advance of the forum to those who register with the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline by August 18, 1998.

The IPSC has announced this forum to hear the views of stakeholders on actions that the agencies represented by the IPSC are taking or are planning to take to address perchlorate contamination. The public is invited to participate fully during the August 25, 1998 and August 27, 1998 forums and during future opportunities for stakeholder participation.

Dated: August 5, 1998.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 98-21355 Filed 8-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6139-9]

Notice of Availability of Final Guidance on Implementing the Capacity Development Provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, and Information for States on Implementing the Capacity Development Provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is making available final Guidance on Implementing the Capacity Development Provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. This guidance contains four parts: (1) Introduction to the Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity of Water Systems, (2) Guidance on DWSRF Withholding Determinations Related to State Programs for Ensuring That All New Community Water Systems and New Nontransient, Noncommunity Water Systems Demonstrate Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity (3) Guidance on DWSRF Withholding Determinations Related to State Capacity Development Strategies, and (4) Guidance on Assessment of Capacity for Purposes of Awarding SRF Assistance. The purpose of this guidance is to implement national policy which clarifies the statutory requirements of the capacity development related provisions of the SDWA. Part 2 of this guidance fulfills the Agency's obligation under section 1420(d)(4) to publish guidance related to new system capacity.

EPA is also making available two information documents related to capacity development. First, EPA is making available final Information for States on Implementing the Capacity Development Provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. The primary purpose of this document is to complement the aforementioned guidance, and offer States ideas and suggestions as they begin to formulate capacity development programs under the Act. Second, EPA is making available Information for the Public on Participating in Preparing State Capacity Development Strategies. The purpose of this document is provide the public with information enabling them to effectively participate in the

development of their State's capacity development strategy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The above documents may be obtained by contacting the Safe Drinking Water Hotline on 1-800-426-4791. Additional information on capacity development is available on the EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Web Site at the URL address "http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW" or by contacting Peter E. Shanaghan on 202-260-5813 or on email: shanaghan.peter@epamail.epa.gov.

Dated: August 2, 1998.

J. Charles Fox,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water.

[FR Doc. 98-21345 Filed 8-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6140-2]

Rhode Island Marine Sanitation Device Standard; Notice of Determination

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On March 6, 1998 notice was published that the State of Rhode Island had petitioned the Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, to determine that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for all waters within the 3 mile territorial limit of Rhode Island's

coastline and all coastal shore ponds which would include Point Judith and Potter Ponds, Quonochontaug Pond, Ninigret and Green Hill Ponds, Winnapaug Pond, the Pawcatuck River and also within the 3 mile territorial waters surrounding Block Island. The petition was filed pursuant to section 312(f)(3) of Public Law 92-500, as amended by Public Law 95-217 and 100-4, for the purpose of declaring these waters a "No Discharge Area" (NDA).

Section 312(f)(3) states: After the effective date of the initial standards and regulations promulgated under this section, if any State determines that the protection and enhancement of the quality of some or all of the waters within such States require greater environmental protection, such State may completely prohibit the discharge from all vessels of any sewage, whether treated or not, into such waters, except that no such prohibition shall apply until the Administrator determines that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for such water to which such prohibition would apply.

The information submitted to me by the State of Rhode Island certified that there are forty-three disposal facilities available to service vessels operating in the marine waters of Rhode Island. A list of the facilities, phone numbers, locations, and hours of operation is appended at the end of the determination.

Based on the examination of the petition and its supporting information, which included site visits by EPA New England staff, newspaper articles, 120

comment letters, scientific studies, I have determined that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for the area covered under this determination which include all marine waters within the 3 mile territorial limit of Rhode Island's coastline and all coastal shore ponds which would include Point Judith and Potter Ponds, Quonochontaug Pond, Ninigret and Green Hill Ponds, Winnapaug Pond, the Pawcatuck River and also within the 3 mile territorial waters surrounding Block Island. The areas covered under this petition include Latitude 71° 22' 55" Longitude 41° 53' 36" at the Providence River, Latitude 71° 13' 09", 71° 12' 18" Longitude 41° 42' 11", 41° 41' 09" in Mount Hope Bay, Latitude 71° 07' 04", Longitude 41° 26' 25" at the Massachusetts state border, and Latitude 71° 55' 48" Longitude 41° 16' 40" at the Connecticut border.

This determination is made pursuant to section 312(f)(3) of Public Law 92-500, as amended by Public Law 95-217 and 100-4.

A Response to Comments was prepared for the 120 communications the EPA New England received during the 60-day comment period, and may be requested from EPA by written request to Ann Rodney, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—New England, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Water Quality Unit (CWQ), JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203.

Dated: July 30, 1998.

John P. DeVillars,

Regional Administrator, Region I.

PUMP-OUT FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN RHODE ISLAND WATERS

Marina name	Number	Water body	Hours of operation
City of Providence	454-4447	Seekonk River	F-Su 10am-9:30pm/ M-Th 10am-8pm.
Bootlegger Marina	273-2444	Seekonk River	F-Su 10am-9:30pm/M-Th 10am-8pm.
Edgewood Yacht Club	466-1000/ext: 3245	Providence River	24 Hours.
Port Edgewood Marina	941-2000	Providence River	24 Hours.
Pawtuxet Cove Marina	941-2000	Providence River	24 hours.
Rhode Island Yacht Club	941-0220	Providence River	24 Hours.
Cove Haven Marina	246-1600 Ch 9	Bullocks River	24 Hours.
Warren Town Dock	245-7340	Warren River	24 Hours.
Bristol-BOAT	253-1700	Kickamuit River/Bristol Harbor	Daily 8am-12pm.
Rockwell Town Pier	253-1700	Bristol Harbor	W 3pm-6pm/Sa-Su 10a-p.
Brewer's Sakonnet Marina	683-3551 Ch 9	Sakonnet River	Daily 8am-5pm.
Pirates Cove Marina	683-3030 Ch 9	Sakonnet River	Daily 8am-5pm.
East Passage Yachting Center	683-4000 Ch 9	East Passage	May-Sep 7am-7pm/Oct-Apr 8am-5pm.
Alden Yacht	683-4200 Ch 71	East Passage	call 683-4200.
Bay Marina Inc	739-6435	Warwick Cove	Call 739-6435.
Carlson's Marina	738-4278 Ch 9	Warwick Cove	Apr-Nov 8am-5pm.
Wharf Marina	737-2233	Warwick Cove	24 Hours.
Harbor Light Marina	737-6353	Warwick Cove	Daily 8am-9pm.
Warwick Cove Marina	737-2446	Warwick Cove	Daily 7am-8pm.