

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Commissioner



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DWS Circular Letter #2014-08

To: Public Water Systems Serving 1000 or more persons that are testing under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3)

From: ^{LM} Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief (Drinking Water Section)

Date: May 8, 2014

Subject: Reporting and Notification of the UCMR3 Results

The purpose of this letter is to reiterate the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) and Public Notification (PN) requirements associated with public water system (PWS) monitoring under the current Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3), and to offer suggested language for communicating UCMR3 results to the public.

The CCR rule, published on August 19, 1998 (63 FR 44511), requires community water systems (CWSs) to report unregulated contaminant monitoring results whenever they are detected (i.e., are reported above the minimum reporting level [MRL]). The CCR rule does not apply to non-community water systems. A CWS should briefly explain in the CCR why it is monitoring for unregulated contaminants. A suggested explanation follows:

 *Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by USEPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help USEPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard.*

Those who wish to provide additional information to their customers may refer them to the UCMR3 Data Summary (available at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/data.cfm#ucmr2013>). The Data Summary includes health-based "reference concentrations" (along with explanatory discussion) for many of the UCMR3 contaminants. The reference concentrations were developed to provide context around the detection of particular UCMR contaminants.

PWSs may also wish to consider the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Fact Sheets (available at <http://www.drinktap.org/home/water-information/water-quality/ucmr3.aspx>) as an additional source of information for many of the UCMR3 contaminants.

More information on preparing and meeting CCR requirements may be found at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ccr/index.cfm>.



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The Public Notification (PN) rule was published on May 4, 2000 (65 FR 25981). This regulation applies to the large CWSs and non-transient, non-community water systems (NTNCWSs) participating in UCMR3. In addition to requiring notification of violations, the PN rule requires PWSs to provide special notices for certain situations, including the availability of unregulated contaminant monitoring data (40 CFR 141.207). Special public notices of unregulated contaminant monitoring data are different from other public notices because they do not have to contain all the elements required of other types of public notices. Instead, systems need only report that the results are available, and provide a phone number or contact where the results can be obtained.

EPA's *Revised Public Notification Handbook* for CWSs and NTNCWSs (EPA 816-R-09-013) provides useful information for water system operators on how to write and distribute effective public notices. The Handbook and other information regarding the PN rule are available at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/publicnotification/compliancehelp.cfm>.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Sachin Patel of my staff at 860-509-7333.

CC: Local Directors of Health
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