

INFORMATION FOR GROSS ALPHA, RADIUM, & URANIUM SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring for naturally-occurring radiological parameters is required only of Community Water Systems (CWS).

A new radionuclide (RAD) rule went into effect beginning December 8, 2003. There are two major changes in this rule (with respect to natural contaminants):

- 1) **All samples must be taken from each entry point.** Samples taken from a point in the distribution system will not be accepted for compliance with respect to this rule. Raw samples will not be accepted for compliance with respect to this rule.
- 2) **All parameters must be analyzed or substituted for pursuant to 40 CFR 141.26(a)(5).**

This new rule will also increase the number of parameters required to be monitored and the frequency at which they are sampled.

The initial monitoring for the new requirements will be quarterly and phased in over a period of three years, based on a CWS's previous RAD schedule frequency:

Those next due in 2004, will sample in 2004.

Those next due in 2005, will sample in 2005.

Those next due in 2006, will sample in 2006.

Those next due in 2007, will sample in 2006.

Sample requirements for the initial monitoring period are as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	Quarterly
Radium-226	Quarterly
Radium-228	Quarterly
Uranium	Quarterly

The initial monitoring requires that four consecutive quarters of sampling must be completed. Compliance with the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and future monitoring frequencies will be based on the average of the results of the four consecutive quarters of initial monitoring. CWS's exceeding any MCL will have future compliance based on a running annual average, computed quarterly.

For reporting purposes, refer to the "Gross Alpha, Radium-226, Radium-228 & Uranium Monitoring and Reporting Form," found on the DWD website.

If you are a community water system and a radiological requirement did not appear on your 2004, nor appears on your 2005 Water Quality Monitoring Schedule, keep in mind that you will be required to monitor in 2006.

For additional information on this rule, please refer to the Code of Federal Regulations: 40 CFR 141, and other guidance documents from the EPA website: www.epa.gov/safewater (look for 'Radionuclides Rule'). If, after reviewing the EPA guidance, you need more information specific to this rule, please contact Kathleen Pacholski of the Drinking Water Division at (860) 509-7333.