The MCL Review Process

2018 MCL Review

The MCL and PHG for each contaminant were compared. The PHG represents a contaminant level that poses no significant health risks, therefore when an MCL is at or below the PHG, a revision of the MCL will not offer any additional health benefit. Currently, there are 29 MCLs that achieve this level of public health protection.

Asbestos	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	Alachlor
Barium	Ethylbenzene	Bentazon
Cyanide	Methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)	Dalapon
Nitrate (as N)	Monochlorobenzene	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP)
Nitrite (as N)	Toluene	Dinoseb
Nitrate + Nitrite	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	Endothal
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	1,1,1-Trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA)	Glyphosate
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (p-DCB)	Trichlorofluoromethane (Freon 11)	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene
1,1-Dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE)	1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2- Trifluoroethane (Freon 113)	Simazine
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	Xylenes	

In many cases, MCL revision is not warranted since there is very little public health risk since exposure to the chemical is considered negligible.

The Division of Drinking Water (DDW) researched exposure risk based on the occurrence of the contaminant in drinking water sources. Water quality data from the past four years — 2013 to 2017 — were queried from DDW's water quality database, and showed that 26 contaminants were not detectable in any of the regulated drinking water sources. For the purpose of this analysis, two detections in a source at or above the DLR was considered a confirmed "detection". Wells not associated with drinking water distribution with a status of abandoned, agricultural/irrigation, inactive, monitoring, pending, or purchased were not considered.

Beryllium	Carbofuran
Tritium	Chlordane
Strontium -90	2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D)
1,3-Dichloropropene	Endrin
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	Lindane
Heptachlor	Molinate
Benzo(a)pyrene	Oxamyl
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
Diquat	Thiobencarb
Heptachlor epoxide	Toxaphene
Hexachlorobenzene	Vinyl chloride
Methoxychlor	2,3,7,8-TCDD (dioxin)
Picloram	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)

The remaining 32 MCLs were reviewed in 2017, and DDW is not considering any MCL revisions for 2018.