



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45268

Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

May 7, 2012

RE: Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring for Water Systems
Serving over 10,000 Persons – Assessment Monitoring

Dear Public Water System:

The purpose of this letter is to notify your water system of its monitoring requirements under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the final rule detailing the upcoming monitoring of unregulated contaminants at public water systems (PWSs) on May 2, 2012, establishing a new list of contaminants to be monitored and the conditions for that monitoring. The purpose of UCMR monitoring is to provide the EPA Administrator with data to support decisions concerning whether or not to regulate these contaminants.

Under the UCMR3 community water systems and non-transient, non-community water systems serving **more than 10,000 persons** must monitor for unregulated contaminants. **Our records indicate that your water system meets these criteria and is to participate in Assessment Monitoring for List 1 contaminants under the UCMR3.**

Similar to reporting under UCMR2 (2007-2011), PWSs will use the Central Data Exchange (CDX) to access the updated version of the Safe Drinking Water Accession and Review System (SDWARS). If you have yet to register in CDX for SDWARS, please do so immediately using the customer retrieval key (CRK) for your PWS that was sent on April 16, 2012. You need the CRK to register, and you must register to have access to SDWARS. SDWARS will be used to:

- enter contact information
- review and edit sample location information
- review and edit monitoring schedules
- review, approve and submit analytical results

If you have not yet registered and cannot locate the letter containing your CRK, please contact the UCMR Message Center at 1-800-949-1581.

What must your PWS do in the short term?

You have until July 31, 2012 to enter your contact information into SDWARS. UCMR3 requires that official and technical contacts be provided by the PWS.

What should your PWS do next?

You have until November 29, 2012 to:

- review, and if necessary, update your sample location data by adding missing locations, indicating ineligible locations or editing basic information about the locations; and
- review, and if you wish, revise your monitoring schedule assigned by the EPA.

What should your PWS do during UCMR3 monitoring?

Your PWS must ensure that samples are properly collected, packaged and shipped to an EPA-approved laboratory. Once data are posted to SDWARS by your laboratory, your PWS will have **60 days** to review and act upon these results. If you choose not to review these results in this time frame, they will be considered final. Additionally, your PWS must notify the public of this monitoring and any positive results (see enclosed Fact Sheet).

This notification letter is being sent to you as the official representative of this PWS. If someone else at your PWS needs this information, such as the plant operator, please provide them with a copy of this letter. Your cooperation in meeting these requirements is appreciated. EPA recommends that you review the complete rule addressing this monitoring in one of the following places:

- (1) *Federal Register* notice of May 2, 2012 (77 FR 26072)
- (2) EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Website:
<http://water.epa.gov/lawregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3/index.cfm>

The Website also contains other useful reference materials, such as a Reference Guide and a list of currently approved laboratories; that list will be updated as additional laboratories are approved. The Website will also keep you posted about any potential Webcasts pertaining to the UCMR3.

For questions regarding SDWARS or CDX, please contact the CDX Help Desk at 1-888-890-1995. For implementation questions, please contact the UCMR Message Center at 1-800-949-1581. General questions can be addressed to the UCMR Message Center. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Carroll, Director
Technical Support Center

Enclosures