

# The Groundwater Rule and Its Impact on Your System

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## *What is the Groundwater Rule?*

The Groundwater Rule is a federal drinking water rule that is intended to reduce the risk of fecal contamination that may be present in public groundwater systems. This rule requires that systems undergo regular sanitary surveys. In the event that any deficiencies are identified in the surveys, then the system is required to correct the problems through a TCEQ-implemented corrective action plan.

The Groundwater Rule also requires that some systems begin source water monitoring to determine the presence of fecal indicator microorganisms. In the event that fecal indicators are detected the rule prescribes acceptable corrective action for the system.

## *DBP2 Reminder*

The October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 deadline for Group 3 systems (10,000 - 49,999 users) to submit your IDSE sample plan under the DBP2 Rule is just around the corner and the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 deadline for Group 4 systems (500 - 9,999 users) isn't far off either. How is your IDSE sample plan looking?

As a reminder, the Stage 2 DBP Rule is intended to reduce potential cancer and reproductive risks from disinfection byproducts (DBPs) in drinking water, which form when disinfectants are used in drinking water to control microbial pathogens. This rule requires public water systems to meet maximum DBP contaminant levels as an average at multiple compliance monitoring locations, as compared to one system-wide average under the previous rule.

## *What must I do to comply with DBP2?*

Under DBP2, each public water system must:

- Conduct an evaluation of your distribution system, known as an Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE), to identify the locations in the system with high DBP concentrations.

- Prepare and submit the IDSE sample plan to TCEQ prior to your group's deadline.

## *What Can I Do?*

To continue to serve your needs, eHT is presenting a half-day seminar from 9 am - 12 pm on Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Lubbock, Texas.

Areas of discussion will include:

- Overview of the Groundwater Rule.
- How the Groundwater Rule affects your system.
- Steps to take to meet your system's needs for complying with the Rule.
- Short review of the current needs for systems to complete IDSEs under the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Rule.

**The course is offered at no cost to those who attend. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.** Space is limited to 30 persons so you are encouraged to RSVP to Lina at (806) 794-1100.

## *Who Should Attend the eHT Seminar?*

The seminar targets the needs of water system operators and administrators who operate and manage public groundwater systems. The seminar is intended to address the needs of retail systems, as well as wholesale producers and purchasers.

To reserve your space in the upcoming seminar, **please RSVP to Lina DeLeon at (806) 794-1100.** The course will be held at our Lubbock offices at:

6310 Genoa Ave, Suite E  
Lubbock, Texas 79424

If you can't attend the seminar, please feel free to contact eHT with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the Groundwater Rule or the DBP2 Rule.

[www.eHT.com](http://www.eHT.com)