



Fact Sheet: Final Regulatory Determinations for the Second Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List (CCL 2)

EPA has drinking water regulations for more than 90 contaminants. To assess and address risks posed by unregulated contaminants, EPA, in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), identifies a list of contaminants which may require regulation in the future. Every five years, EPA determines whether we should regulate at least five contaminants in drinking water.

In February 2005, EPA published the second Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List (CCL 2), which listed 51 contaminants. On May 1, 2007, after evaluating available occurrence, exposure, and health effects information, EPA published preliminary regulatory determinations for 11 of the 51 CCL 2 contaminants. The May 2007 notice requested public comment on the determinations, process, rationale, and supporting technical information for each of the 11 regulatory determinations. After careful review and consideration of these comments, the Agency is announcing a final determination that no regulatory action is appropriate at this time for any of the 11 CCL 2 contaminants.

Questions and Answers

What is the drinking water CCL?

The drinking water CCL is the primary source of priority contaminants for making decisions about whether drinking water regulations are needed. The contaminants on the list are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems. However, they are currently unregulated by existing national primary drinking water regulations.

How often is the CCL published?

The Safe Drinking Water Act directs EPA to publish a CCL every five years. We published the first CCL of 60 contaminants in March 1998. We published the second CCL (CCL 2) in February 2005. The second CCL carried forward 51 (of the original 60) unregulated contaminants from the first CCL, including nine microbiological contaminants and 42 chemical contaminants or contaminant groups. A list of these 51 contaminants is available at the following EPA website: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccl/ccl2.html>.

What is a regulatory determination?

A regulatory determination is a formal decision on whether EPA should initiate a rulemaking

process to develop a national primary drinking water regulation for a specific contaminant. The law requires that we make regulatory determinations for at least five contaminants from the most recent CCL every five years.

In July 2008, EPA announced its final determinations for 11 contaminants listed on the second CCL. EPA had sufficient health and occurrence information to make determinations on these contaminants. Based on the analysis of available information, EPA has determined not to regulate boron; the dacthal mono- and di-acid degradates; 1,1-dichloro-2,2-bis(p-chlorophenyl)ethylene (DDE); 1,3-dichloropropene (Telone); 2,4-dinitrotoluene; 2,6-dinitrotoluene; *s*-ethyl dipropylthiocarbamate (EPTC); fonofos; terbacil; or 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane. Occurrence information indicates that these 11 contaminants either appear to be nonexistent or have low levels of occurrence at health levels of concern in public water systems and regulating these contaminants does not present a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction. In those cases where low levels of occurrence exist, the Agency is updating the current health advisories to reflect new information or to include the potential degradates.

It is important to note that EPA is not limited to making regulatory determinations for only those contaminants on the CCL. We can also decide to regulate other unregulated contaminants if information becomes available, showing that a specific contaminant presents a public health risk.

What criteria does EPA consider in making regulatory determinations?

When making a determination to regulate, the law requires consideration of three areas:

- the potential adverse effects of the contaminant on the health of humans,
- the extent of contaminant occurrence in public drinking water, and
- whether regulation of the contaminant presents a meaningful opportunity for reducing public health risks.

What about perchlorate and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)?

The Agency continues to use the best available science on perchlorate to protect public health and the environment. EPA has already adopted a revised reference dose for perchlorate, based on the 2005 recommendations by the National Academy of Sciences, and issued updated guidance on how to use the revised reference dose in source water cleanup decisions. The Agency will soon publish a regulatory determination for perchlorate. The assessment guidance of perchlorate can be found at the following Agency websites:

<http://www.epa.gov/ncea/iris/subst/1007.htm> and
http://www.epa.gov/oswer/riskassessment/superfund_management.htm.

We are not making a regulatory determination for MTBE at this time because the Agency's health risk assessment is currently being revised. The status of the MTBE assessment can be tracked at the following Agency website: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/iristrac/index.cfm>

Do these Regulatory Determinations impose any requirements on public water systems?

No. The regulatory determinations on the CCL alone do not impose any requirements on public water systems. However, if EPA decided to regulate a contaminant on the list in the future, then public water systems would have to comply with the regulation.

Where can I find more information about this notice and the CCL 2 Regulatory Determinations?

For information on the regulatory determinations for the second CCL, please visit http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccl/reg_determine2.html. For general information on drinking water, please visit the EPA Safewater Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater or contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. The Safe Drinking Water Hotline is open Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Eastern time.

11 Regulatory Determination Contaminants from CCL 2

Contaminant	CASRN	Information about the contaminant
Boron	7440-42-8	Naturally occurring metalloid. Used in the production of glass/glass products, soaps and cleaners, fire retardants, pesticides, antifreeze.
Dacthal (DCPA) Mono Degradate (degradate of dacthal)	887-54-7	Dacthal parent - herbicide used to control grasses and weeds on some vegetables and ornamental turfs.
Dacthal (DCPA) Di Acid Degradate (degradate of dacthal)	2136-79-0	Dacthal parent - herbicide used to control grasses and weeds on some vegetables and ornamental turfs.
DDE (1,1-Dichloro-2,2-bis(p-chlorophenyl) ethylene)	72-55-9	Degradate of DDT. DDT is a pesticide once used to eliminate disease carrying insects; cancelled 1973.
1,3-Dichloropropene	542-75-6	Soil fumigant used to control nematodes.
2,4-Dinitrotoluene	121-14-2	Production of explosives, ammunition, dyes, polyurethane foams and auto airbags.
2,6-Dinitrotoluene	606-20-2	Production of explosives, ammunition, dyes, polyurethane foams and auto airbags.
EPTC (s-Ethyl-dipropylthiocarbamate)	759-94-4	Herbicide used to control weeds on some food crops.
Fonofos	944-22-9	Insecticide once used on pests (e.g. corn rootworms, centipedes); cancelled 1998.
Terbacil	5902-51-2	Herbicide used to control weeds in some food and feed crops and in forestry.
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	79-34-5	Volatile organic once used to synthesize other chemicals. Commercial production ceased in the 1980s but can still be released as a manufacturing byproduct.