

Fact Sheet Date: March 12, 1998

**NEW YORK STATE  
- HUMAN HEALTH FACT SHEET -**

**Ambient Water Quality Value for  
Protection of Sources of Potable Water**

**SUBSTANCE:** tert-Butylbenzene

**CAS REGISTRY NUMBER:** 98-06-6

**AMBIENT WATER QUALITY VALUE:** 5 ug/L

**BASIS:** Surface Water: Principal Organic Contaminant Classes  
Groundwater: Former Reference to 10 NYCRR Subpart 5-1 Principal Organic Contaminant (POC) General Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

**SUMMARY OF INFORMATION**

A search of relevant sources revealed very little information on the toxicity of tert-butylbenzene. It is not listed on EPA's IRIS, nor is there a final EPA drinking water Health Advisory. No data were received in response to a public notice. A search of TOXLINE, NTIS and BIOSIS for the generic butylbenzene revealed no additional relevant studies.

tert-Butylbenzene is in a principal organic contaminant class (class iv, benzene and alkyl- or nitrogen-substituted benzenes) as defined in 6 NYCRR 700.1.

**DERIVATION OF VALUE**

Surface Water

Regulations [6 NYCRR 702.2(b)] require that the value be the most stringent of the values derived using the procedures found in sections 702.3 through 702.7. The principal organic contaminant class value of 5 ug/L (702.3(b)) represents the most stringent value that can be derived for tert-butylbenzene. Therefore, the ambient surface water quality value for tert-butylbenzene is 5 ug/L.

## Groundwater

The principal organic contaminant (POC) groundwater standard of 5 ug/L (6 NYCRR 703.5) applies to tert-butylbenzene. This standard became effective on January 9, 1989 by inclusion by reference to 10 NYCRR Subpart 5-1 standards. The basis and derivation of the POC standard are described in a separate fact sheet.

## **REFERENCES**

NYSDEC. 1991. 6 NYCRR, Chapter X, Parts 700-705. Water Quality Regulations for Surface Waters and Groundwaters.

## **SEARCH STRATEGY**

The following sources were searched for tert-butylbenzene:

- ! Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) - Searched 12/21/93.
- ! Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances (RTECS) - Searched 12/22/93.
- ! Chemical Carcinogenesis Research Information System (CCRIS) - Searched 11/27/92.
- ! TOXLINE - Searched by New York State Library 12/5/92.
- ! National Technical Information Service (NTIS) - Searched by New York State Library 12/5/92.
- ! BIOSIS - Searched by New York State Library 12/5/92.
- ! IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans. Overall Evaluations of Carcinogenicity: An Updating of IARC Monographs Volumes 1 to 42. IARC Monographs Supplement 7. International Agency for Research on Cancer, World Health Organization, Lyon, France, 1987. Searched 12/22/93.

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