

# Right-to-Know Working Group Conference Call

**March 22, 1999**

## Executive Summary

The Right-to-Know Working Group of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) met by conference call on March 22, 1999, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. The call was held in room 1209, East Tower, U.S. EPA, 401 M. Street., SW, Washington, DC.

### I. BACKGROUND:

The NDWAC Right-to-Know Working Group held its first meeting September 24 and 25, 1998, followed by a conference call on November 4. The group's recommendations on actions EPA should take to help implement the public information and public involvement provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act were presented to the full NDWAC at its November 1998 meeting {link to NDWAC meeting report here} The working group recommended:

- Principles to support the development of all public outreach products on drinking water
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- Principles to support the development of public materials providing further information on the Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs)
- Specific materials which would be most useful to helping multiples audiences expect and understand drinking water information which will be made available to the public over the next year.

### II. ISSUES DISCUSSED ON THE CALL:

#### **Materials drafted to support Consumer Confidence Reports, as recommended to EPA by NDWAC in November 1998.**

The working group reviewed two documents which EPA prepared in response to recommendations from NDWAC and others. Materials included:

- an overview of the opportunities for the public to get involved in the drinking water program at the local, state, and national levels
- quick reference pointers to available and forthcoming drinking water data.

Working group members used the following questions to review and comment on the materials:

- is the information presented clearly?
- are the products useful?
- would you use them in your own work, and how?
- are there still gaps remaining in the information?
- how do they stack up against the principles this group recommended for all products?

#### **ACTION:**

The working group recommended edits and additions to the draft materials.

### **III. Next Steps**

EPA will summarize comments made on this call at the meeting of the Right-to-Know working group on March 25 and 26. Working Group members can make additional comments at the meeting.

### **IV. Public Comment**

There were no public comments made during this call.