


DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

POLICY/PROCEDURE

Title:	Expansion of Public Water Systems with Unresolved Continuous (MCL) Violations	
References:	Richard Siffert	
Contact:	Lead Secretary, Division of Drinking Water	
Effective Date:	10-15-92	
Supersedes:	N/A	
Approved:		Director, Division of Drinking Water

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Prevent water systems from expanding and providing substandard water to additional customers rather than resolving existing quality problems.

PROCEDURE:

1. No new expansion of system experiencing unresolved EPA Tier 3 SNC violation.
2. If a system first has expansion approved and then experiences a continuous MCL violation prior to constructing the expansion facilities, the system will be instructed not to make the planned expansion.
3. For the system in step 2 above which has started construction of the expansion facilities, the system will be instructed to cease further expansion at the next reasonable stopping point. The next reasonable stopping point will be determined by the department based on the system characteristics, and the severity of the problem.
4. The measures outlined above will remain in effect for any system until the MCL problem has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the department.
5. The form of notice to the system will be:
 - a) A letter from the department instructing them appropriately.
 - b) A departmental order when necessary to follow-up or replace a).
6. A copy of the notice which is sent to the purveyor in step above, will be sent to the jurisdictional health department.

7. The system will be placed in the "red" category (indicating inadequate system) for operating permit purposes.
 8. Prior to operating permit implementation, regional office order for public water systems with unresolved continuous MCL violation will be issued and the system will be placed on the inadequate list.
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JUSTIFICATION:

In the past there have been approvals made to connect additional users to water systems with a history of poor quality. This action goes against our philosophy that all public water supplies should provide potable water, and that we should actively work toward reducing the total number of people receiving poor quality drinking water. It would be difficult to justify, except in rare cases, allowing additional connections to a system with known poor water quality. This also provides a tool to help achieve compliance through local pressure on the water purveyor.