

October 5, 2006

Status of draft manual: *Policy and Implementing Guidance for Control and Disposition of Drinking Water Treatment Residuals Containing Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM)*

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (the Department) has received over 400 general and specific comments from 16 entities as well as a Risk Assessment regarding the above mentioned draft manual. These comments have been entered into a database to facilitate resolving issues and editing the manual. The Department understands that the risk assessment prepared by S.M. Stoller Corp. is an important aspect for many of these comments and is working to fully analyze the assessment. Once the Department has completed the review of the comments and risk assessment, a response to the comments will be sent to stakeholders and revisions will be made to the guidance manual.

A number of comments have raised concern regarding the level of technical and scientific basis for disposal limits. Other comments pertain to social and economic impacts. These issues will be addressed in the response to the comments and revisions to the guidance manual. The manual will also be reorganized to clearly display the policy and concentration thresholds. Many comments have been directed towards authority for policy implementation as well as local government control of disposal. These issues are beyond the scope of the guidance manual and must be resolved in a different arena; therefore these issues will only be discussed briefly in the response to comments. However, these issues will be included as topics during the next stakeholder meetings.

The goal of the Department is to complete the manual by the end of the year. Stakeholders will be contacted for participation in this effort. The Department looks forward to finalizing this manual to provide guidance to public water systems and furthering its partnership with the regulated community.

You may have noticed that the TENORM webpage is missing from the Water Quality Control Division's webpage. The TENORM page will be up again and located on the Drinking Water Program webpage in the very near future. Please stay tuned.

Sincerely,

Glenn Bodnar, Project Manager