



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Charles Kiely
Assistant General Manager for Consumer Services
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority
301 Bryant Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

SEP 25 2008

Dear Mr. Kiely:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify direction provided in our September 16, 2008, letter regarding revisions to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DCWASA) Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) tap sampling instructions. This letter also provides comments on the revised sampling instructions submitted by DCWASA on September 23, 2008, and instructions on reporting for the current monitoring period.

Clarification regarding already sampled locations

In our September 16, 2008, letter, we noted that we are aware that a number of samples have already been collected for the July through December, 2008, monitoring period. In its September 18, 2008, response letter, DCWASA confirmed that approximately 44% of the samples for the current monitoring period have already been collected. We would like to clarify that DCWASA is not required to resample those locations using revised instructions.

Revised sampling instructions

EPA Region III and EPA Headquarters Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (OGWDW) have reviewed the revised sampling instructions which remove reference to a 10 minute period of flushing prior to stagnation. The revised instructions instead remind customers to run their cold water for 2 minutes prior to the stagnation period if the water has not been used in several hours. Region III and OGWDW have also reviewed the documents provided by DCWASA which document that DCWASA's normal water use recommendations to all of their customers include flushing the tap for 2 minutes prior to drinking or cooking if the water has not been used in several hours. DCWASA may resume the LCR tap sampling program using these revised instructions.



Reporting for the July through December 2008 monitoring period

DCWASA's next LCR report is due to EPA Region III no later than January 10, 2009. Please include results from locations sampled with the previous instructions and the revised instructions in calculation of the lead and copper 90th percentiles, noting which samples were taken with each set of instructions. Samples will not be invalidated based solely on their collection with a 10 minute period of flushing prior to stagnation.

Please feel free to contact me (binetti.victoria@epa.gov; 215-814-5757) or Dr. Jennie Saxe of the Drinking Water Branch (saxe.jennie@epa.gov; 215-814-5806) with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,



Victoria P. Binetti
Associate Director for Drinking Water
and Source Water Protection

cc: Rich Giani, DCWASA
Avis Russell, DCWASA

