

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES AND THE GROUND WATER RULE

Key Provisions of the Ground Water Rule (GWR)

- Sanitary Surveys of all Ground Water Systems (GWSs)
- Source Water Monitoring
- Corrective Actions for Significant Deficiencies & Fecal Contamination
- Compliance Monitoring

State Authority

For PWSs subject to the Ground Water Rule, States must have authority to enforce corrective action requirements. The State must provide a notice of all significant deficiencies (e.g., those that require corrective action) to the system within 30 days of identification of the deficiencies.

Systems subject to this must consult with the State and take corrective action for any significant deficiencies no later than 120 days after receiving written notification of such deficiencies, or submit a schedule and plan to the State for correcting these deficiencies within the same 120 day period.

Public Water System Requirements

Once a PWS subject to the GWR as been identified as having significant deficiencies, it must do one or more of the following:

- Eliminate the source of contamination
- Correct the significant deficiency
- Provide an alternative source of water
- Provide a treatment that reliably achieves at least 99.99 percent (4-log) inactivation or removal of viruses before or at the first customer.

Systems subject to the GWR that fail to take corrective action within 120 days or on State-approved schedule are in violation of the treatment technique requirements of the GWR.

Systems in violation of the treatment technique requirements of the GWR must provide public notification of the violation and may be subject to enforcement actions.