

The Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3) Fact Sheet for Screening Survey Monitoring (List 2 Contaminants)

Overview of the Rule

- ❖ **Title:** Revisions to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule for Public Water Systems; 77 FR 26072, May 2, 2012.
- ❖ **Purpose:** To collect occurrence data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Screening Survey monitoring addresses contaminants with analytical methods that rely on sophisticated technology that may not be as widely used in drinking water laboratories. The UCMR program is the primary source of drinking water contaminant occurrence data used by EPA in regulatory determinations.
- ❖ **Description:** UCMR 3 includes Screening Survey monitoring for seven List 2 hormones using an EPA-approved analytical method. List 2 contaminants are always associated with a Screening Survey sampling design. Public water systems (PWSs) subject to Screening Survey monitoring will sample within a 12-month period during 2013 - 2015.
- ❖ **Utilities Affected:** Applicability is based on retail population served for community water systems (CWSs) and non-transient non-community water systems (NTNCWSs). Screening Survey monitoring will be conducted by all systems serving more than 100,000 people; 320 randomly selected systems serving 10,001 to 100,000; and 480 randomly selected systems serving 10,000 or fewer.
- ❖ **Occurrence Data:** The analytical results from UCMR 3 are stored in the [National Contaminant Occurrence Database \(NCOD\)](#). For a summary of the NCOD results, tips for querying NCOD, and health effects information (including reference concentrations) please refer to the [UCMR 3 Data Summary](#) document.

Screening Survey (List 2 Contaminants)

Contaminant / CASRN ¹	MRL ² (µg/L)	Use or Environmental Source ³
Hormones; EPA Method 539		
17-β-estradiol 50-28-2	0.0004	Estrogenic hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in pharmaceuticals
17-α-ethynylestradiol 57-63-6	0.0009	Synthetic steroid; prepared from estrone
estriol 50-27-1	0.0008	Estrogenic hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in veterinary and human pharmaceuticals
equilin 474-86-2	0.004	Estrogenic hormone derived from horses; and used in pharmaceuticals
estrone 53-16-7	0.002	Estrogenic hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in veterinary and human pharmaceuticals
testosterone 58-22-0	0.0001	Androgenic steroid naturally produced in the human body; and used in pharmaceuticals
4-androstene-3,17-dione 63-05-8	0.0003	Steroidal hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used as an anabolic steroid and a dietary supplement

1. CASRN - Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number

2. MRL - Minimum Reporting Level

3. "Use or Environmental Source" further documented in UCMR 3 Contaminants – Information Compendium. EPA 815-B-11-001. January 2012

Screening Survey Monitoring

- ❖ **Time frame:** One consecutive 12-month period during January 2013 - December 2015 (monitoring can span more than one calendar year, as long as conducted during a consecutive 12-month period).
- ❖ **Frequency:** *Ground Water:* Monitoring will occur twice in a consecutive 12-month period; sample events must occur 5 - 7 months apart. *Surface Water or GUDI:* Monitoring will occur in 4 consecutive quarters, with sampling events occurring 3 months apart.
- ❖ **Location:** Entry point to the distribution system (EPTDS) for all contaminants.
- ❖ **Laboratories:** Samples must be analyzed by [EPA-approved laboratories](#).

Critical Deadlines and Requirements

Due Date	Requirement	Report through SDWARS ¹	Contact Sampling Coordinator ²
Following Rule Publication			
October 1, 2012	Systems must submit contact information to SDWARS. (Any subsequent changes must be submitted within 30 days of the change occurring).	X	
	Laboratories seeking approval must submit a registration form to participate in the laboratory approval process .		X
August 1, 2012	Ground water systems that wish to monitor from representative EPTDSs must submit either state-approved, UCMR 2-approved or propose a new representative sampling plan.		X
October 1, 2012	Deadline for systems to change their monitoring schedule (after October 1, systems must provide an explanation for the requested schedule change and obtain EPA approval of the change).	X	X (after October 1)
	PWSs review/edit if necessary, inventory information for sampling locations.	X	X (after October 1)
Following Sample Collection			
Within 120 days of sample collection	Laboratories post data to SDWARS.	X	
Within 60 days of lab posting data	PWSs review and approve the data. If the PWS has not taken action after 60 days, the data are considered approved and ready for state and EPA review.	X	

1. Safe Drinking Water Accession and Review System
2. Contact via email at: UCMR_Sampling_Coordinator@epa.gov.

Data Elements

Public Water System Identification (PWSID) Code	Sampling Point Identification Code	Sample Identification Code	Sample Analysis Type	Laboratory Identification Code
Public Water System Facility Identification Code	Sampling Point Type Code	Contaminant	Analytical Results–Sign	Sample Event Code
Water Source Type	Sample Collection Date	Analytical Method Code	Analytical Result–Value	

Additional Information

The **Public Notification Rule** (40 CFR §141.207), published on May 4, 2000 (65 FR 25982) with amendments and corrections included in the Code of Federal Regulations for the Public Notification Rule published on July 1, 2006, requires PWSs to notify the public annually that the results of monitoring for unregulated contaminants are available. CWSs may include their public notice within their CCRs. Details on these reporting requirements can be found in the document: [Revised Public Notification Handbook \(EPA 816-R-09-013\)](#).

Under the **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule**, as specified in 40 CFR §141.153(d), CWSs must report the monitoring results whenever unregulated contaminants are detected. CCRs are delivered to all billing customers each year by July 1. (The CCR Rule does not apply to non-community water systems). Details on these reporting requirements can be found on the [CCR Home Page](#).

For More Information

- ❖ Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426 – 4791
- ❖ CDX/SDWARS Help Desk: (888) 890 – 1995
- ❖ [UCMR Homepage](#)