

**567—41.8 (455B) Radionuclides.****41.8(1) Radionuclides.***a. Applicability.*

(1) This rule applies to all community public water supplies, and specifies the radionuclide maximum contaminant levels, analytical methodology requirements, and monitoring requirements. The radionuclide reporting requirements are listed in 567—subrule 42.4(1), the public notice requirements are listed in rule 567—42.1(455B), and the best available technology is listed in 567—subparagraph 43.3(10)“b”(3). All CWSs must comply with the requirements and maximum contaminant levels for gross alpha particle activity, radium-226, radium-228, uranium, beta particle activity, and photon emitter radioactivity. Only those CWSs designated by the department to be vulnerable to man-made radioactivity contamination are required to monitor for beta particle activity and photon emitter radioactivity. To determine whether a system is vulnerable to man-made nuclear radioactivity, the department will evaluate proximity to a nuclear facility, source water, historical analytical data, ongoing surveillance data from the nuclear facility, and any other factor considered by the department to be relevant to the vulnerability determination.

(2) Compliance dates. Community water systems must comply with the MCLs listed in 41.8(1)“b”(1) beginning December 8, 2003. Compliance shall be determined in accordance with 41.8(1)“c” through 41.8(1)“f.” Compliance with the radionuclides reporting requirements is required by December 8, 2003. All CWSs must conduct initial monitoring to determine compliance with 41.8(1)“b”(1) by December 31, 2007.

*b. Maximum contaminant levels for radionuclides.*

(1) Gross alpha particle activity, radium-226, radium-228, and uranium MCLs. The following table specifies the MCLs for gross alpha particles, radium, and uranium radionuclides:

Contaminant	Maximum Contaminant Level
Gross alpha particle activity, including Radium-226 but excluding radon and uranium	15 pCi/L
Combined Radium-226 and Radium-228	5 pCi/L <sup>1</sup>
Uranium	30 µg/L

<sup>1</sup>The combined radium-226 and radium-228 value is determined by the addition of the results of the analysis for radium-226 and the analysis for radium-228.

**(2) Beta particle activity and photon radioactivity MCLs.**

1. The average annual concentration of beta particle and photon radioactivity from man-made radionuclides in drinking water must not produce an annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ greater than 4 millirem/year.

2. Except for the radionuclides listed below, the concentration of man-made radionuclides causing 4 millirems total body or organ dose equivalents must be calculated on the basis of 2 liter per day drinking water intake, using the 168-hour data lists in “Maximum Permissible Body Burdens and Maximum Permissible Concentrations of Radionuclides in Air and in Water for Occupational Exposure,” National Bureau of Standards Handbook 69 as amended August 1963, United States Department of Commerce. If two or more radionuclides are present, the sum of their annual dose equivalent to the total body or to any organ shall not exceed 4 millirems/year.

Average Annual Concentrations Assumed to Produce a  
Total Body or Organ Dose of 4 mrem/year

Radionuclide	Critical Organ	Concentration
Strontium-90	Bone marrow	8 pCi/L
Tritium	Total body	20,000 pCi/L

*c. Compliance determinations.* Compliance with 41.8(1)“b” will be determined based on the analytical results obtained at each sampling point. If one sampling point is in violation of an MCL, the system is in violation of the MCL. If the system is in violation of an MCL, the supplier of the water is required to give notice to the department in accordance with 567—subrule 42.4(1) and to notify the public as required by 567—42.1(455B).

(1) Detection limits. For the purposes of monitoring gross alpha particle activity, radium-226, radium-228, uranium, and beta particle and photon radioactivity in drinking water, “detection limit” is defined in this subparagraph.

1. For the purpose of monitoring radioactivity concentration in drinking water, the required sensitivity of the radioanalysis is defined in terms of a detection limit. The detection limit shall be that concentration which can be counted with a precision of plus or minus 100 percent at the confidence level (1.960 sigma where sigma is the standard deviation of the net counting rate of the sample).

2. To determine compliance with 41.8(1)“b”(1), the detection limit shall not exceed the following concentrations:

Detection Limits for Gross Alpha Particle Activity,  
Radium-226, Radium-228, and Uranium

Contaminant	Detection Limit
Gross alpha particle activity	3 pCi/L
Radium-226	1 pCi/L
Radium-228	1 pCi/L
Uranium	1 µg/L

3. To determine compliance with 41.8(1)“b”(2), the detection limits shall not exceed the following concentrations:

Detection Limits for Man-Made  
Beta Particle and Photon Emitters

Contaminant	Detection Limit
Gross beta	4 pCi/L
Cesium-134	10 pCi/L
Iodine-131	1 pCi/L
Strontium-89	10 pCi/L
Strontium-90	2 pCi/L
Tritium	1,000 pCi/L
Other radionuclides	1/10 of the applicable limit

(2) Compliance determination.

1. For systems monitoring more than once per year (i.e., quarterly), compliance with the MCL is determined by a running annual average at each sampling point. If the average of any sampling point is greater than the MCL, the system is immediately in violation of the MCL. If any sample result causes the running annual average to exceed the MCL at any sample point, the system is immediately in violation of the MCL.

2. Systems monitoring annually or less frequently (i.e., one-, three-, six-, or nine-year frequency), and whose sample result exceeds the MCL, must revert to quarterly sampling for that contaminant during the next quarter. Systems are required to conduct quarterly monitoring only at the source/entry point at which the sample was collected and for the specific contaminant that triggered the system into the increased monitoring frequency. Systems triggered into increased monitoring will not be considered in violation of the MCL until they have completed one year of quarterly sampling. If any sample result causes the running annual average to exceed the MCL at any sample point, the system is immediately in violation of the MCL.

3. Systems must include all samples taken and analyzed under the provisions of this rule in determining compliance, even if that number is greater than the minimum required by the department.

4. If a system does not collect all required samples when compliance is based on a running annual average of quarterly samples, compliance will be based on the running average of the samples collected.

5. If a sample result is less than the detection limit, a value of zero will be used to calculate the annual average.

6. The department may invalidate results of obvious sampling or analytical errors.

7. Averaging and significant figures. To judge compliance with the maximum contaminant levels listed in 41.8(1)“b,” averages of data shall be used and shall be rounded to the same number of significant figures as the maximum contaminant level for the substance in question.

(3) The department will determine compliance or initiate enforcement action based upon analytical results or other information compiled by department staff or the department’s designee.

(4) The department may assign additional requirements as it deems necessary to protect the public health, including public notification requirements.

*d. Analytical methodology for radionuclides.* Analysis for the following contaminants shall be conducted to determine compliance with 41.8(1)“b” in accordance with the methods in the following table, or equivalent methods determined in accordance with 567—41.12(455B).

(1) Radionuclide Analytical Methodology Table.

RADIONUCLIDE ANALYTICAL METHODOLOGY

Contaminant	Methodology	Reference (method or page number)								
		EPA <sup>1</sup>	EPA <sup>2</sup>	EPA <sup>3</sup>	EPA <sup>4</sup>	SM <sup>5</sup>	ASTM <sup>6</sup>	USGS <sup>7</sup>	DOE <sup>8</sup>	Other
Naturally occurring:										
Gross alpha <sup>11</sup> & beta	Evaporation	900.0	p. 1	00-01	p. 1	302, 7110B		R-1120-76		
Gross alpha <sup>11</sup>	Co-precipitation			00-02		7110C				
Radium-226	Radon emanation	903.1	p. 16	Ra-04	p. 19	305, 7500-Ra C	D 3454-97	R-1141-76	Ra-04	NY <sup>9</sup>
	Radiochemical	903.0	p. 13	Ra-03		304, 7500-Ra B	D 2460-97	R-1140-76		
Radium-228	Radiochemical	904.0	p. 24	Ra-05	p. 19	7500-Ra D		R-1142-76		NY <sup>9</sup> NJ <sup>10</sup>
Uranium <sup>12</sup>	Radiochemical	908.0				7500-U B				
	Fluorometric	908.1				7500-U C	D 2907-97	R-1180-76 R-1181-76	U-04	
	Alpha spectrometry			00-07	p. 33	7500-U C	D 3972-97	R-1182-76	U-02	
	Laser phosphorimetry						D 5174-97			
Man-made:										
Radioactive Cesium	Radiochemical	901.0	p. 4			7500-Cs B	D 2459-72	R-1111-76		

Contaminant	Methodology	Reference (method or page number)								
		EPA <sup>1</sup>	EPA <sup>2</sup>	EPA <sup>3</sup>	EPA <sup>4</sup>	SM <sup>5</sup>	ASTM <sup>6</sup>	USGS <sup>7</sup>	DOE <sup>8</sup>	Other
Radioactive Iodine	Gamma ray spectrometry	901.1			p. 92	7120	D 3649-91	R-1110-76	4.5.2.3	
	Radiochemical	902.0	p. 6 p. 9			7500-I B 7500-I C 7500-I D	D 3649-91			
Radioactive Strontium 89, 90	Gamma ray spectrometry	901.1			p. 92	7120	D 4785-93		4.5.2.3	
	Radiochemical	905.0	p. 29	Sr-04	p. 65	303, 7500-Sr B		R-1160-76	Sr-01 Sr-02	
Tritium	Liquid scintillation	906.0	p. 34	H-02	p. 87	306, 7500-3H B	D 4107-91	R-1171-76		
Gamma emitters	Gamma ray spectrometry	901.1			p. 92	7120	D 3649-91	R-1110-76	Ga-01-R	
		902.0				7500-Cs B	D 4785-93			
		901.0				7500-I B				

The procedures shall be done in accordance with the documents listed below. The incorporation by reference of documents 1 through 10 was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR Part 51. Copies of the documents may be obtained from the sources listed below. Information regarding obtaining these documents can be obtained from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791. Documents may be inspected at EPA's Drinking Water Docket, EPA West, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Room B135, Washington, DC 20460 (telephone (202)566-2426); or at the Office of Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC.

<sup>1</sup>“Prescribed Procedures for Measurement of Radioactivity in Drinking Water,” EPA 600/4-80-032, August 1980. Available at the US Department of Commerce, NTIS, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161 (telephone (800)553-6847) PB 80-224744.

<sup>2</sup>“Interim Radiochemical Methodology for Drinking Water,” EPA 600/4-75-008(revised), March 1976. Available at NTIS, *ibid.* PB 253258.

<sup>3</sup>“Radiochemistry Procedures Manual,” EPA 520/5-84-006, December 1987. Available at NTIS, *ibid.* PB 84-215581.

<sup>4</sup>“Radiochemical Analytical Procedures for Analysis of Environmental Samples,” March 1979. Available at NTIS, *ibid.* EMSL LV 053917.

<sup>5</sup>Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 13th, 17th, 18th, 19th or 20th editions, 1971, 1989, 1992, 1995, 1998. Available at American Public Health Association, 1015 Fifteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20005. Methods 302, 303, 304, 305, and 306 are only in the 13th edition. Methods 7110B, 7500-Ra B, 7500-Ra C, 7500-Ra D, 7500-U B, 7500-Cs B, 7500-I B, 7500-I C, 7500-I D, 7500-Sr B, 7500-3H B are in the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th editions. Method 7110C is in the 18th, 19th, and 20th editions. Method 7500-U C Fluorimetric Uranium is only in the 17th edition. Method 7500-U C Alpha spectrometry is only in the 18th, 19th, and 20th editions. Method 7120 is only in the 19th and 20th editions.

<sup>6</sup>Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol. 11.02, 1999. Any year containing the cited version of the method may be used. Available at ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428.

<sup>7</sup>“Methods for Determination of Radioactive Substances in Water and Fluvial Sediments,” Chapter A5 in Book 5 of Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations of the United States Geological Survey, 1977. Available at US Geological Survey (USGS) Information Services, Box 25286, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225-0425.

<sup>8</sup>“EML Procedures Manual,” 28th (1997) or 27th (1990) editions, Volumes 1 and 2; either edition may be used. In the 27th edition, Method Ra-04 is listed as Ra-05, and Method Ga-01-R is listed as Sect. 4.5.2.3. Available at the Environmental Measurements Laboratory, US Department of Energy (DOE), 376 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014-3621.

<sup>9</sup>“Determination of Ra-226 and Ra-228 (Ra-02),” January 1980, revised June 1982. Available at Radiological Sciences Institute Center for Laboratories and Research, New York State Department of Health, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12201.

<sup>10</sup>“Determination of Radium-228 in Drinking Water,” August 1980. Available at State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Environmental Quality, Bureau of Radiation and Inorganic Analytical Services, 9 Ewing Street, Trenton, NJ 08625.

<sup>11</sup>Natural uranium and thorium-230 are approved as gross alpha calibration standards for gross alpha with co-precipitation and evaporation methods; americium-241 is approved with co-precipitation methods.

<sup>12</sup>If uranium (U) is determined by mass, a 0.67 pCi/μg of uranium conversion factor must be used. This conversion factor is based on the 1:1 activity ratio of U-234 to U-238 that is characteristic of naturally occurring uranium.

(2) Method references for other radionuclides. When the identification and measurement of radionuclides other than those listed in 41.8(1) “b” are required, the following references are to be used, except in cases where alternative methods have been approved in accordance with 567—41.12(455B).

1. “Procedures for Radiochemical Analysis of Nuclear Reactor Aqueous Solutions,” H. L. Krieger and S. Gold, EPA-R4-73-014, Environmental Protection Agency, Cincinnati, Ohio 45268 (May 1973).

2. “HASL Procedure Manual,” edited by John H. Harley. HASL 300, ERDA Health and Safety Laboratory, New York, NY (1973).

*e. Monitoring requirements for gross alpha, radium-226, radium-228, and uranium.*

(1) General requirements.

1. Monitoring frequency and confirmation samples. The department may require more frequent monitoring than specified in this paragraph. The department may require confirmation samples at its discretion. The results of the initial and confirmation samples will be averaged for use in compliance determinations.

2. Monitoring period. Each PWS shall monitor during the time period designated by the department in the operation permit.

- (2) Applicability and sampling locations.

1. Existing systems and sources. All existing CWSs must sample at every entry point to the distribution system that is representative of all sources being used under normal operating conditions. The system must take each sample at the same source/entry sampling point, unless conditions make another alternate sampling point more representative of each source, or the department has designated a distribution system location, in accordance with 41.8(1) "e"(3) "4." The department must approve any alternate sampling point for radionuclides.

2. New systems and sources. All new CWSs or CWSs that use a new source of water must begin to conduct initial monitoring for the new system or source within the first calendar quarter after initiating use of the system or source. More frequent monitoring must be conducted by the CWS when required by the department, in the event of possible contamination or when changes in the distribution system or treatment processes occur which may increase the concentration of radioactivity in finished water.

- (3) Initial monitoring. Systems must conduct initial monitoring for gross alpha particle activity, radium-226, radium-228, and uranium as follows. If the average of the initial monitoring results for a source/entry point is above the MCL, the system must collect and analyze quarterly samples at that source/entry point until the system has results from four consecutive quarters that are at or below the MCL, unless the system enters into another schedule as part of a formal compliance agreement with the department.

1. Systems without historical monitoring data. Systems without historical monitoring data must collect four consecutive quarterly samples at all source/entry sampling points before December 31, 2007. The department may waive the final two quarters of initial monitoring from a source/entry point if the results of the samples from the previous two quarters are below the detection limit.

2. Systems with historical monitoring data and one source/entry point. Systems with only one source/entry point may use historical monitoring data collected between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2003, from either the representative point in the distribution system or the source/entry point to satisfy the initial monitoring requirement.

3. Systems with historical source/entry point monitoring data and multiple source/entry points. Systems with multiple source/entry points that also have appropriate historical monitoring data for each source/entry point may use the monitoring data collected between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2003, to satisfy the initial monitoring requirement.

4. Systems with historical distribution system monitoring data and multiple source/entry points. Systems with appropriate historical data for a representative point in the distribution system and multiple source/entry points may use the monitoring data collected between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2003, provided that the department determines that the historical data satisfactorily demonstrates that each source/entry point is expected to be in compliance based upon the historical data and reasonable assumptions about the variability of contaminant levels between source/entry points. The department must make a written finding indicating how the data conforms to these requirements, in order for the data to satisfy the initial monitoring requirements.

- (4) Reduced monitoring. The department may allow a CWS to reduce the future frequency of monitoring from once every three years to once every six or nine years at each source/entry point, based on the following criteria. The samples collected during the reduced monitoring period must be used to determine the monitoring frequency for subsequent monitoring periods (e.g., if a system's source/entry point is on a nine-year frequency, and the sample result is above half of the MCL, then the next

monitoring frequency for that source/entry point is three years). If a system has a monitoring result that exceeds the MCL while on reduced monitoring, the system must collect and analyze quarterly samples at that source/entry point until the system has results from four consecutive quarters that are below the MCL, unless the system enters into another schedule as part of a formal compliance agreement with the department.

1. Nine-year frequency. If the average of the initial monitoring results for each contaminant is below the detection limit specified in 41.8(1) "c"(1)"2," the system must collect and analyze for that contaminant using at least one sample at that source/entry point every nine years.

2. Six-year frequency. If the average of the initial monitoring results for gross alpha particle activity, uranium, and combined radium-226 and radium-228 is at or above the detection limit and at or below half the MCL for that contaminant, the system must collect and analyze for that contaminant using at least one sample at that source/entry point every six years. The analytical results for radium-226 and radium-228 must be added together to yield the combined result.

3. Three-year frequency. If the average of the initial monitoring results for gross alpha particle activity, uranium, and combined radium-226 and radium-228 is above half of the MCL and at or below the MCL for that contaminant, the system must collect and analyze for that contaminant using at least one sample at that source/entry point every three years. The analytical results for radium-226 and radium-228 must be added together to yield the combined result.

(5) Composite samples. To fulfill quarterly monitoring requirements for gross alpha particle activity, radium-226, radium-228, or uranium, a system may composite up to four consecutive quarterly samples from a single entry point if analysis is done within one year of the first sample. The analytical results from the composited samples will be considered by the department as the average analytical result to determine compliance with the MCLs and to determine the future monitoring frequency. If the analytical result from the composited sample is greater than half of the MCL, the department may require additional quarterly samples from the system before the system will be allowed to sample under a reduced monitoring schedule.

(6) Data substitution using gross alpha particle activity results.

1. A gross alpha particle activity measurement may be substituted for the required uranium measurement provided that the measured gross alpha particle activity does not exceed 15 pCi/L.

2. The gross alpha particle activity measurement shall have a confidence interval of 95 percent (1.65 sigma, where sigma is the standard deviation of the net counting rate of the sample) for uranium. When a system uses a gross alpha particle activity measurement in lieu of a uranium measurement, the gross alpha particle activity analytical result will be used to determine the future monitoring frequency for uranium. If the gross alpha particle activity result is less than the detection limit, half the detection limit will be used to determine compliance and the future monitoring frequency.

*f. Monitoring requirements for beta particle and photon emitters.* To determine compliance with the maximum contaminant levels in 41.8(1) "b"(2) for beta particle and photon radioactivity, a system must monitor at a frequency specified in 41.8(1) "f."

(1) General requirements.

1. Monitoring frequency and confirmation samples. The department may require more frequent monitoring than specified in 41.8(1) "f." The department may require confirmation samples at its discretion. The results of the initial and confirmation samples will be averaged for use in compliance determinations.

2. Monitoring period. Each PWS shall monitor during the time period designated by the department in the operation permit.

(2) Systems designated by the department as vulnerable to man-made radioactivity.

1. Initial monitoring. Systems that have been determined by the department to be vulnerable to man-made radioactivity must collect quarterly samples for beta emitters and annual samples for tritium

and strontium-90 at each entry point to the distribution system, beginning within one quarter after being notified by the department of this requirement. Systems already required to conduct beta particle and photon radioactivity monitoring must continue to sample until the department removes the monitoring requirement.

2. Reduced monitoring. The department may reduce the frequency of monitoring at that sampling point to once every three years, if the gross beta particle activity minus the naturally occurring potassium-40 beta particle activity at a source/entry point has a running annual average (computed quarterly) of less than or equal to 50 pCi/L (screening level). Systems must collect all of the samples required in 41.8(1)“f”(2)“1” during the reduced monitoring period.

3. Data substitution. For a system in the vicinity of a nuclear facility, the department may allow the system to utilize environmental surveillance data collected by the nuclear facility in lieu of monitoring at the system’s source/entry point(s), where the department determines such data is applicable to a particular water system. In the event that there is a release from a nuclear facility, systems which are using surveillance data must begin monitoring at the system’s source/entry point(s) in accordance with 41.8(1)“f”(2).

(3) Systems determined to utilize waters contaminated by effluents from nuclear facilities.

1. Initial monitoring. Systems designated by the department as utilizing water contaminated by effluents from nuclear facilities must sample for beta particle and photon radioactivity. Systems must collect quarterly samples for beta emitters and iodine-131 and annual samples for tritium and strontium-90 at each entry point to the distribution system, beginning within one quarter after being notified by the department. Systems already designated by the department as systems using waters contaminated by effluents from nuclear facilities must continue to sample until the department removes the sampling requirement.

- Gross beta particle activity. Quarterly monitoring for gross beta particle activity shall be based on the analysis of monthly samples or the analysis of a composite of three monthly samples. The former is recommended.

- Iodine-131. A composite of five consecutive daily samples shall be analyzed once each quarter for iodine-131. The department may require more frequent monitoring when iodine-131 is identified in the finished water.

- Strontium-90 and tritium. Annual monitoring for strontium-90 and tritium shall be conducted by means of the analysis of a composite of four consecutive quarterly samples or analysis of four quarterly samples. The latter procedure is recommended.

2. Reduced monitoring. If the gross beta particle activity minus the naturally occurring potassium-40 beta particle activity at a sampling point has a running annual average (computed quarterly) less than or equal to 15 pCi/L (screening level), the department may reduce the frequency of monitoring at that sampling point to every three years. Systems must collect all samples required in 41.8(1)“f”(3) during the reduced monitoring period.

3. Data substitution. For systems in the vicinity of a nuclear facility, the department may allow the CWS to utilize environmental surveillance data collected by the nuclear facility in lieu of monitoring at the system’s entry point(s), where the department determines such data is applicable to a particular water system. In the event that there is a release from a nuclear facility, systems which are using surveillance data must begin monitoring at the CWS source/entry point in accordance with 41.8(1)“f”(2)“1.”

(4) Monitoring frequency waiver. A CWS designated by the department to monitor for beta particle and photon radioactivity cannot apply to the department for a waiver from the monitoring frequencies specified in 41.8(1)“f”(2) or (3).

(5) Community water systems may analyze for naturally occurring potassium-40 beta particle activity from the same or an equivalent sample used for the gross beta particle activity analysis. Systems are allowed to subtract the potassium-40 beta particle activity value from the total gross beta particle activity value to determine if the screening level is exceeded. The potassium-40 beta particle activity must be calculated by multiplying elemental potassium concentrations (in mg/L) by a factor of 0.82.

(6) If the gross beta particle activity minus the naturally occurring potassium-40 beta particle activity exceeds the appropriate screening level, an analysis of the sample must be performed to identify the major radioactive constituents present in the sample, and the appropriate doses must be calculated and summed to determine compliance with 41.8(1) "b"(2) "1," using the formula in 41.8(1) "b"(2) "2." Doses must also be calculated and combined for measured levels of tritium and strontium to determine compliance.

(7) Monitoring after an MCL violation. Systems must monitor monthly at the sampling point(s) which exceed the maximum contaminant level in 41.8(1) "b"(2) beginning the month after the exceedance occurs. Systems must continue monthly monitoring until the system has established, by a rolling average of three monthly samples, that the MCL is being met. Systems that establish that the MCL is being met must return to quarterly monitoring until they meet the requirements set forth in 41.8(1) "f"(2) or 41.8(1) "f"(3) "2."

**41.8(2)** Reserved.

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