

A WORD OF INTRODUCTION FROM THE UVDGM SPECIAL ISSUE EDITOR: The Importance of the USEPA's UV Disinfection Guidance Manual to the Water Industry

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This special issue of the IUVA News is dedicated solely to the USEPA's UV Disinfection Guidance Manual (UVDGM), which was released in July 2003. The UVDGM provides the requirements and guidelines for using UV light to disinfect drinking water. It is the first comprehensive document regarding UV disinfection of drinking water written in the United States and reflects the current state of UV technology.

Because the IUVA feels that this document has important ramifications for the drinking water industry, this special issue is dedicated to the water industry's perspective of the UVDGM. In addition, this issue of IUVA News provides articles addressing the following topics:

- An overview of the Long-Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR) and the Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 D/DBPR) (the UVDGM was developed to support these new regulations)
- Overview of the UVDGM itself
- Summary of the draft USEPA validation protocol that is in the UVDGM and an article that outlines the current UV equipment validation options
- Description of the state of drinking water UV disinfection in Canada and how the UVDGM will affect their UV installations
- Comparison of the status of wastewater and water UV disinfection, how the UVDGM will impact the wastewater industry, and how the wastewater industry impacted the UVDGM development
- The impacts of the UVDGM on water utilities and UV equipment manufacturers
- Issues that consultants (outside of the UVDGM development team) believe need to be addressed in the final UVDGM.
- Summary of how the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AwwaRF) has impacted the UVDGM development through its funded research.

Of course, IUVA encourages its membership to read the UVDGM in its entirety for themselves. The complete UVDGM can be downloaded from USEPA's website (www.epa.gov/safewater/lt2/guides.html). USEPA is requesting comments on the UVDGM to be submitted by January 9, 2004. Comments on this draft guidance manual should be submitted to EPA's Water Docket and can be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. The procedure for sending comments is described below, and the UVDGM also provides this information. In addition, specific issues for which USEPA is requesting comments are described in UVDGM pages xvii to xx.

IUVA would like to thank the authors who wrote these fine articles in a very short time frame, so that IUVA could bring the membership this significant document shortly after the UVDGM release date.

It is still unknown what impact the UVDGM will have on the water industry; however, this issue of IUVA News provides some initial ideas of what these impacts might be. The IUVA hopes that this special issue is informative, communicates the impact of the UVDGM on the water industry, and provides a preview of the comments on the draft UVDGM by the authors in this edition of IUVA News.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS:

EPA is releasing this manual in draft form in order to solicit public review and comment. The Agency would appreciate comments on the content and organization of technical information presented in this manual. A list of topics for comment pertaining to specific chapters and appendices is provided later in this manual. Please submit any comments no later than 90 days after publication of the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule proposal in the Federal Register. Detailed procedures for submitting comments are stated below.

Procedures for submitting comments:

Comments on this draft guidance manual should be submitted to EPA's Water Docket. You may submit comments electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier.

To submit comments using EPA's electronic public docket, go directly to EPA Dockets at: <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>,

and follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once in the system, select "search," and then key in Docket ID No. OW-2002-0039.

To submit comments by e-mail, send comments to OW_Docket@epa.gov, Attention Docket ID No. OW-2002-0039. If you send an e-mail comment directly to the Docket without going through EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system automatically captures your e-mail address, which is included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket.

To submit comments on a disk or CD ROM, mail it to the address identified below. These electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect or ASCII file format. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

To submit comments by mail, send three copies of your comments and any enclosures to: Water Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 4101T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC, 20460, Attention Docket ID No. OW-2002-0039.

To submit comments by hand delivery or courier, deliver your comments to: Water Docket, EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC, Attention Docket ID No. OW-2002-0039.

Please identify the appropriate docket identification number in the subject line on the first page of your comment. If you submit an electronic comment, please include your name, mailing address, and an e-mail address or other contact information in the body of your comment. Also include this contact information on the outside of any disk or CD ROM you submit, and in any cover letter accompanying the disk or CD ROM.

For public commenters, please note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EPA's electronic public docket as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, confidential business information, or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.



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