

APR 12 1994



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METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

[Signature]
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

March 14, 1994

To: Board of Directors (Engineering and Operations Committee--Information)
(Special Committee on Water Quality and Environmental Compliance--Information)

From: General Manager

Subject: Information Collection Rule (ICR)

Report

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) conducted a regulatory negotiation (reg neg) in 1992-93 in order to develop a consensus-based regulation for disinfectants and disinfection by-products (D/DBPs). Three drinking water rules came out of the negotiations: (1) a D/DBP Rule, (2) an Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (ESWTR), and (3) an Information Collection Rule (ICR). The first of these rules to be proposed and published in the Federal Register (on February 10, 1994) was the ICR.

Due to the limitations of scientific data on DBPs and microbial pathogens, the USEPA decided to propose a two-staged D/DBP Rule (i.e., Stage 1 and 2). Consequently, the purpose of the ICR is to gather scientific information on the occurrence, health effects, and treatability of DBPs and microbial pathogens for the second reg neg in 1998, and development of the ESWTR in 1996-97. Large systems will be required to start ICR monitoring in October 1994, and all testing is to be completed by 1997.

The major elements of the ICR are summarized in the attached flowchart. Utilities which treat surface or ground water and serve 10,000 people or more may be required to monitor for microbial pathogens, DBPs, and DBP precursors, and perform a study on the use of DBP precursor removal technologies, depending on various population cutoffs and type of water treated. These systems will be required to monitor for up to 12 contaminants (or family of contaminants) and 11 water quality parameters on a monthly (or less often) basis. Metropolitan's total monitoring and analytical cost for compliance with the ICR is estimated at \$325,000. The ICR will also impact Metropolitan's member agencies and subagencies. Nationwide, the ICR is estimated to cost \$130 million. Metropolitan staff have and will continue to keep our member agencies informed on the ICR and

assist them by helping provide information such as specific laboratories which may be able to do the work.

The data from the ICR will be used to ensure that the development of Stage 2 of the D/DBP Rule and the ESWTR will be based on sound science. This is critical given the potential enormous costs of compliance with these regulations.

Board Committee Assignments

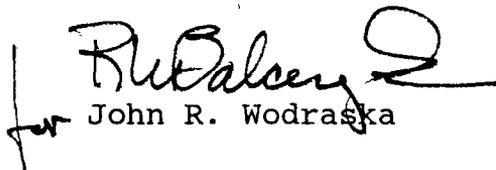
This letter is referred for information to:

The Engineering and Operations Committee because of its jurisdiction over the initiation of construction programs, operation of treatment facilities, and treatment of water pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2431 (b) and (c); and

The Special Committee on Water Quality and Environmental Compliance because of its authority regarding Federal water quality regulations pursuant to Administrative Code 2551 (b) and (c).

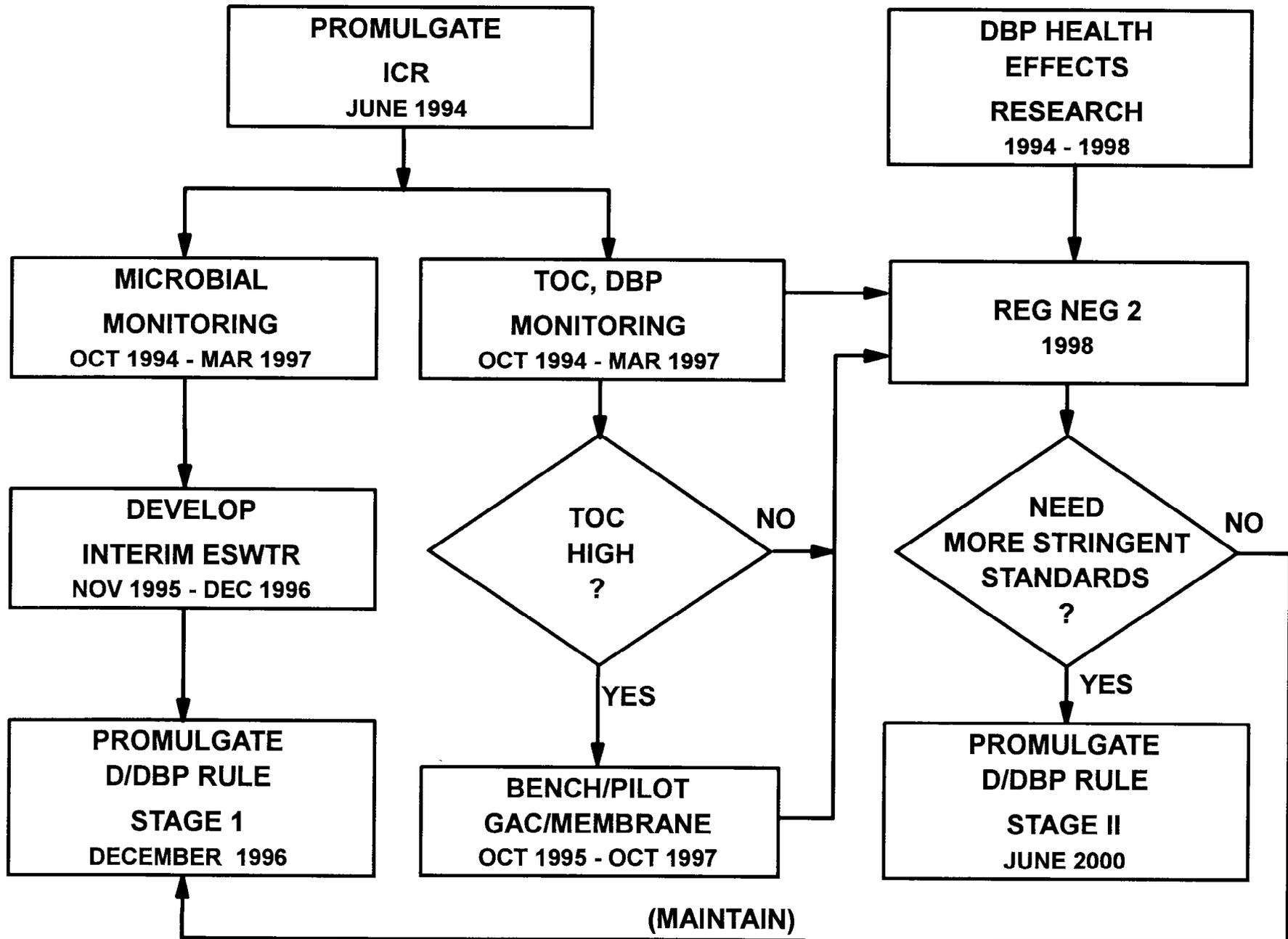
Recommendation

For information only.


for John R. Wodraska

SWK:MHS:wt

Attachment



NEED FOR MONITORING AND RESEARCH