

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7507-2]

Notice of Approval of Submissions to Prohibit Mixing Zones for Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern Pursuant to Section 118 of the Clean Water Act and the Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of approval of submissions by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to prohibit mixing zones for bioaccumulative chemicals of concern (BCCs) in the Great Lakes System pursuant to section 118(c) of the Clean Water Act and the Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System, as amended.

DATES: EPA's approval is effective on June 3, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denise Hakowski, U.S. EPA, Region 3, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, or telephone her at (215) 814-5726. Copies of materials considered by EPA in its decision are available for review by appointment at U.S. EPA, Region 3, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Appointments may be made by calling Ms. Hakowski.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 23, 1995, EPA published the Final Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System (Guidance). See 60 FR 15366. The 1995 Guidance established minimum water quality standards, antidegradation policies, and implementation procedures for the waters of the Great Lakes System in the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Specifically, the 1995 Guidance specified numeric criteria for selected pollutants to protect aquatic life, wildlife and human health within the Great Lakes System and provided methodologies to derive numeric criteria for additional pollutants discharged to these waters. The 1995 Guidance also contained minimum implementation procedures and an antidegradation policy.

The 1995 Guidance, which was codified at 40 CFR part 132, required the Great Lakes States to adopt and submit to EPA for approval water quality criteria, methodologies, policies and procedures that are consistent with

the Guidance. 40 CFR 132.4 & 132.5. EPA is required to approve of the State's submission within 90 days or notify the State that EPA has determined that all or part of the submission is inconsistent with the Clean Water Act (CWA) or the Guidance and identify any necessary changes to obtain EPA approval. If the State fails to make the necessary changes within 90 days after the notification, EPA must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying the approved and disapproved elements of the submission and a final rule identifying the provisions of part 132 that shall apply for discharges within the State.

Soon after being published, the Guidance was challenged in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. On June 6, 1997, the Court issued a decision upholding virtually all of the provisions contained in the 1995 Guidance (*American Iron and Steel Institute, et al. v. EPA*, 115 F.3d 979 (D.C. Cir. 1997)); however, the Court vacated the provisions of the Guidance that would have eliminated mixing zones for BCCs (115 F.3d at 985). The Court held that EPA had "failed to address whether the measure is cost-justified," and remanded the provision to EPA for an opportunity to address this issue (115 F.3d at 997). In response to the Court's remand, EPA reexamined the factual record, including its cost analyses, and published the Proposal to Amend the Final Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System to Prohibit Mixing Zones for Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern in the **Federal Register** on October 4, 1999 (64 FR 53632). EPA received numerous comments, data, and information from commenters in response to the proposal.

After reviewing and analyzing the information in the rulemaking record, including those comments, on November 13, 2000, EPA published the final rule amending the Final Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System to Prohibit Mixing Zones for Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern, to be codified in appendix F, procedure 3.C of 40 CFR part 132. As amended, the Guidance requires that States adopt mixing zone provisions that prohibit mixing zones for new discharges of BCCs effective immediately upon adoption of the provision by the State, and to prohibit mixing zones for existing discharges of BCCs after November 15, 2010, except where a mixing zone is determined by the State to be necessary to support water conservation measures and overall load reductions of BCCs or where a mixing zone is determined by the State to be

necessary for technical or economic reasons. Under the amended Guidance, States were given two years to adopt and submit revised water quality standards conforming with the amended Guidance.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's regulation banning mixing zones for BCCs is found at 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93, section 93.8a. It was adopted on September 17, 2002, and the revisions were published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on December 14, 2002. The Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Chief Counsel certified on January 23, 2003, that these regulatory changes were adopted pursuant to the Commonwealth's legal procedures, and that the Office of Attorney General and the Governor's Office of General Counsel have also approved the final regulatory changes for form and legality. In accordance with section 303(c)(2)(A) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and 40 CFR 131.20(c), the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) forwarded the amended regulation to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on February 7, 2003, and we received it on February 19, 2003.

EPA has conducted its review of Pennsylvania's submission to prohibit mixing zones for BCCs in the Great Lakes System in accordance with the requirements of section 118(c)(2) of the CWA and 40 CFR part 132. Section 118 requires that States adopt policies, standards and procedures that are "consistent with" the Guidance. EPA has interpreted the statutory term "consistent with" to mean "as protective as" the corresponding requirements of the Guidance. Thus, the Guidance gives States the flexibility to adopt requirements that are not the same as the Guidance, provided that the State's provisions afford at least as stringent a level of environmental protection as that provided by the corresponding provision of the Guidance. In making its evaluation, EPA has considered the language of the Commonwealth's standards, policies and procedures, as well as any additional information provided by Pennsylvania clarifying how it interprets or will implement its provisions.

In this proceeding, EPA has reviewed the Pennsylvania's submission to determine its consistency only with respect to appendix F, procedure 3.C of 40 CFR part 132. EPA has not reopened part 132 in any respect, and today's action does not affect, alter or amend in any way the substantive provisions of part 132. To the extent any members of the public commented during this

proceeding that any provision of part 132 is unjustified as a matter of law, science or policy, those comments are outside the scope of this proceeding.

With regard to the element of the Commonwealth's regulation submitted for EPA approval, EPA is approving this provision as a revision to the Commonwealth's water quality standards under section 303 of the CWA. EPA is also approving this submission under section 118 of the CWA. Additional explanations of EPA's review of and conclusions regarding this action are contained in the administrative record for today's actions. EPA is taking no action at this time with respect to other revisions a State may have made to its NPDES program or water quality standards in areas not addressed by the Guidance or applicable outside of the Great Lakes System.

Dated: May 20, 2003.

Donald S. Welsh,

Regional Administrator, Region 3.

[FR Doc. 03-13887 Filed 6-2-03; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket 98-67; DA 03-1729]

Notice of Certification of State Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) Programs

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this document is to notify state Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) programs that certification of their program has been granted through July 26, 2008. Notice is hereby given that the applications for certification of state Telecommunication Relay Services (TRS) programs of the states listed below have been granted, subject to the condition described below, pursuant to Title IV of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 47 U.S.C. 225(f)(2), and section 64.605(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 64.605(b). The Commission will provide further Public Notice of the certification of the remaining applications for certification once final review of those states' applications has been completed. On the basis of the state applications, the Commission has determined that: The TRS program of the states meet or exceed all operational, technical, and functional minimum standards contained in section 64.604 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 64.604;

the TRS programs of the listed states make available adequate procedures and remedies for enforcing the requirements of the state program; and the TRS programs of the listed states in no way conflict with federal law.

DATES: This certification shall remain in effect for a five year period, beginning July 26, 2003, and ending July 25, 2008, pursuant to 47 CFR 64.605(c).

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information regarding this *Public Notice*, contact Erica Myers, (202) 418-2429 (voice), (202) 418-0464 (TTY), or e-mail emyers@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's *Public Notice*, CC Docket No. CC 98-67, released May 19, 2003. Copies of applications for certification are available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554. The applications for certification are also available on the Commission's Web site at http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/trs_by_state.html. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554, telephone (202) 863-2893, facsimile (202) 863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, at (202) 418-0531 (voice), (202) 418-7365 9 (tty). This *Public Notice* can also be downloaded in Text and ASCII formats at: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro>.

Synopsis

The Commission also has determined that, where applicable, the intrastate funding mechanisms of the listed states are labeled in a manner that promotes national understanding of TRS and does not offend the public, consistent with section 64.605(d) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 64.605(d).

Because the Commission may adopt changes to the rules governing relay programs, including state relay programs, the certification granted herein is conditioned on a demonstration of compliance with the new rules adopted and any additional new rules that are adopted by the Commission. The Commission will

provide guidance to the states on demonstrating compliance with such rule changes.

This certification, as conditioned herein, shall remain in effect for a five year period, beginning July 26, 2003, and ending July 25, 2008, pursuant to 47 CFR 64.605(c). One year prior to the expiration of this certification, July 25, 2007, the states may apply for renewal of their TRS program certification by filing documentation in accordance with the Commission's rules, pursuant to 47 CFR 64.605 (a) and (b).

First Group of States Approved for Certification

File No: TRS-46-02
Alabama Public Service Commission
State of Alabama
File No: TRS-47-02
Commission for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired
State of Arkansas
File No: TRS-32-02
California Public Utilities Commission
State of California
File No: TRS-04-02
Commission of the Deaf and Hearing Impaired
State of Connecticut
File No: TRS-49-02
District of Columbia Public Service Commission
District of Columbia
File No: TRS-43-02
Idaho Public Service Commission
State of Idaho
File No: TRS-08-02
Indiana Telephone Relay Access
State of Indiana
File No: TRS-19-02
Alaska Public Utilities Commission
State of Alaska
File No: TRS-02-02
Arizona Council for Hearing Impaired
State of Arizona
File No: TRS-23-02
Colorado Public Utilities Commission
State of Colorado
File No: TRS-32-02
State of Delaware Public Service Commission
State of Delaware
File No: TRS-50-02
Florida Public Utilities Commission
State of Florida
File No: TRS-10-02
Illinois Commerce Commission
State of Illinois
File No: TRS-03-02
Iowa Utilities Board
State of Iowa
File No: TRS-52-02
Kentucky Public Service Commission
State of Kentucky
File No: TRS-53-02
Maine Public Utilities Commission