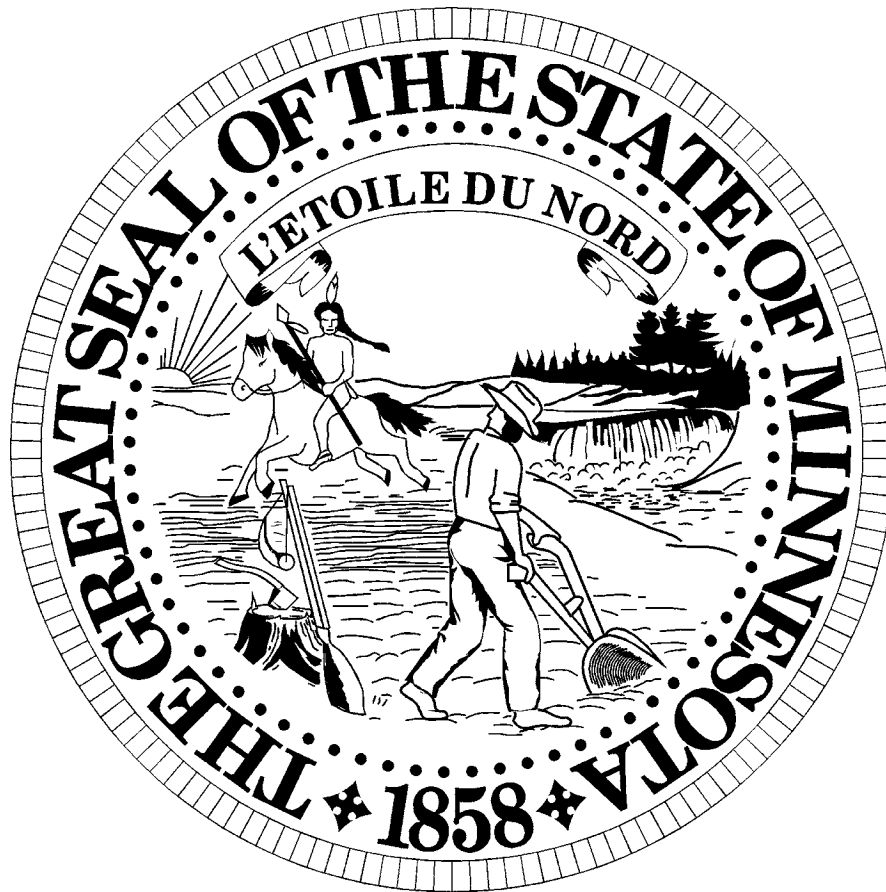


**Exhibit A. Request for Comments**

# Minnesota State Register

Published every Monday (Tuesday when Monday is a holiday)



**Proposed, Adopted, Emergency, Expedited, Withdrawn, Vetoed Rules;  
Executive Orders; Appointments; Commissioners' Orders; Revenue Notices;  
Official Notices; State Grants & Loans; State Contracts; Non-State Public Bids,  
Contracts and Grants**

**Tuesday 19 January 2021  
Volume 45, Number 29  
Pages 785 - 806**

# Official Notices

Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.101, an agency must first solicit comments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency by publishing a notice in the *State Register* at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, and within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

The *State Register* also publishes other official notices of state agencies and non-state agencies, including notices of meetings and matters of public interest.

## Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

### Environmental Health Division, Environmental Surveillance and Assessment Section

#### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS on Possible Amendments to Rules Governing Health Risk Limits, *Minnesota Rules*, Parts 4717.7500 and 4717.7860

**Subject of Rules.** The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) requests comments on possible amendments to rules governing Health Risk Limits (HRLs) for groundwater. The amendments will add new HRL values or replace outdated HRL values for groundwater contaminants to the existing Health Risk Limits Tables found in *Minnesota Rules*, parts 4717.7500 and 4717.7860, plus any related changes necessary to accomplish this.

**Persons Affected.** The possible amendments to the rules will likely affect risk managers in partner state and local agencies: the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), water system operators, and local public health agencies. Partner agencies rely on HRL values as one standard for environmental assessment and risk management to protect groundwater resources. Industries that manufacture or use the identified chemicals and environmental groups that monitor water quality are also affected. The proposed amendments ultimately could affect drinking water sources for Minnesotans who rely on groundwater as their source of drinking water.

**Statutory Authority.** The Groundwater Protection Act of 1989 (*Minnesota Statutes*, section 103H.201) and *Minnesota Statutes*, section 144.12, subdivision 1(5), authorize MDH to adopt and revise health risk limits for substances degrading groundwater. The 2001 Health Standards Statute (*Minnesota Statutes*, section 144.0751) specifies additional requirements for establishing safe drinking water standards.

**Public Comment.** MDH is now seeking comment on the specific water contaminants and the corresponding values that we are considering for the rule amendment. Links to the chemicals and values are posted on MDH's website at Rules Amendments – Contaminants <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/risk/rules/water/chemicals.html>.

MDH is also seeking comment on the cumulative regulatory results from adding the incremental impact of the proposed rule to other state and federal rules related to the same specific purpose.

Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rules in writing or orally until MDH publishes a notice of intent to adopt amendments in the *State Register*. MDH will not publish such a notice until more than 60 days have elapsed from the date of this Request for Comments. In addition, MDH plans to hold at least one public meeting to receive comment and to provide additional information on possible amendments. MDH will make related announcements via its email subscription service. Further information on possible rule amendments, related public meetings, and email subscription is available at *Rules Amendments – Overview and Links* <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/risk/rules/water/overview.html>.

**Rules Drafts.** MDH has not yet drafted the possible rules amendments.

**Agency Contact Person.** Written or oral comments, questions, or requests to receive a draft of the rules when available should be directed to:

Nancy Rice  
Minnesota Department of Health  
625 Robert Street North  
P.O. Box 64975  
Saint Paul, MN 55164-0975  
Phone: (651) 201-4923  
E-mail: [nancy.rice@state.mn.us](mailto:nancy.rice@state.mn.us)

**Alternative Format.** Upon request, this Request for Comments can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or audio. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

**NOTE:** Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submit comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the administrative law judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: December 18, 2020

Steven Diaz, Assistant Division Director  
Environmental Health Division  
Minnesota Department of Health

## Department of Human Services (DHS)

### Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division

#### MFIP Transitional Standard with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Temporary Increase in Maximum Allotments due to COVID-19 January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Minnesota Statute 256J.24, Subd. 5a requires the Commissioner of Human Services to adjust the food portion of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Transitional Standard in order to maintain compliance with the federal waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture. The statute also requires the Commissioner publish the adjusted Transitional Standard for assistance unit sizes one to ten. The Transitional Standard consists of a cash and food portion. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 temporarily increases the SNAP benefits by raising maximum allotments from January 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The MFIP Transitional Standard and cash and food portions temporarily in effect from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 are listed below.

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Over 10
Transitional Standard	\$543	\$892	\$1,142	\$1,371	\$1,581	\$1,825	\$1,986	\$2,195	\$2,402	\$2,603	200
Cash Portion	\$350	\$537	\$632	\$721	\$797	\$873	\$950	\$1,016	\$1,080	\$1,135	\$53
Food Portion	\$193	\$355	\$510	\$650	\$784	\$952	\$1036	\$1,179	\$1,322	\$1,468	\$147