

Disinfection Policy

MINUTE ORDER NO. 83-58

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The Commission on Pollution Control and Ecology hereby grants approval for the Department to conduct a public hearing for the departmental Disinfection Policy.

COMMISSIONERS

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Handwritten signature of the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN

SUBMITTED BY: James R. Shell DATE PASSED: 9/23/83
Chief, Water Division

DISINFECTION POLICY

The following criteria will be used during the review of permit applications or 201 Facility Plans to determine the need for disinfection facilities. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis when determining the need for disinfection.

- 1) Compliance with the bacteriological criteria of the Arkansas Water Quality Standards is necessary when the receiving water is used for downstream water supply, primary body contact recreation, or irrigation on non-process food crops. However, if the time-of-passage (based on yearly average velocity) is adequate to reduce the fecal coliform count below the Arkansas Water Quality Standards prior to reaching the use area disinfection may not be required.
- 2) Disinfection shall not be required of discharges to streams which meet the terms of the Ephemeral and Intermittent Streams and Drainage Ditches stream policy of the Arkansas Water Quality Standards, unless disinfection is necessary to protect existing instream uses of the receiving streams or downstream waters. Where disinfection of discharges to said streams are determined to be necessary, it will not be required except during seasons of the year in which the existing instream uses requiring disinfection actually exist.
- 3) Seasonal disinfection shall be practiced whenever possible in order to protect the aquatic life in receiving waters.
- 4) Exemptions to the requirement for disinfection may be granted when natural die-off and dilution are adequate to meet the Arkansas Water Quality Standards at the downstream point of use or during periods when there is no potential for adverse health effects, such as winter months.
- 5) Disinfection facilities which discharge to trout streams tributaries or to other cold water fisheries and which use chlorine as a disinfectant shall install adequate dechlorination facilities. Seasonal disinfection shall be practiced whenever possible in these streams.

- 6) Alternative methods of disinfection of wastewater treatment plants effluents shall be used when applicable.
- 7) The exemption from disinfection shall be subject to re-evaluation and may be rescinded if the downstream water use is changed in such a manner as to present a potential public health hazard (i.e. installation of a downstream water supply, primary body contact recreation area or irrigation on non-process food crops).
- 8) Fecal coliform effluent limitations may not be included in permit requirements when disinfection is not required. Where disinfection is necessary, fecal coliform effluent limitations and monitoring requirements shall be included in the permit during periods of disinfection.
- 9) As new information on disinfection of wastewater becomes available, this policy shall be subject to revision.