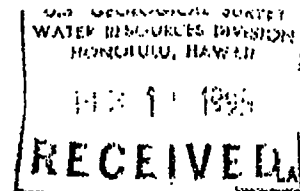


BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LAWRENCE HIKKE  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P. O. BOX 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801

In reply, please refer to:  
EMD /

February 7, 1995

Mr. William Meyer  
United States Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Water Resources Division  
677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 415  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Meyer: *Bill*

Reference is made to your letter dated January 19, 1995, concerning the Department of Health's policy on chlorides in potable water.

Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 20, pertaining to potable water systems, does not include a standard for chlorides in drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), however, has set a secondary standard of 250 milligrams per liter (mg/l) for chlorides. A secondary standard is one which is believed to be the level at which a contaminant has an adverse aesthetic effect. This means it adds an undesirable taste, odor, or appearance to the water which would make it unpalatable. EPA's secondary standards are used in Hawaii as recommended levels. They are different from primary standards which are related to health effects and are enforceable.

We have worked with water systems to provide drinking water with less than 250 mg/l, but there are water systems that have served drinking water in excess of 250 mg/l. Again, secondary standards are levels which we would prefer to see met, but not enforceable.

I hope this information clarifies the State's policy on chlorides in drinking water. If you have any questions, please contact me at 586-4258.

Sincerely,

*William Wong*  
WILLIAM WONG, P.E., Chief  
Safe Drinking Water Branch  
Environmental Management Division

WW:la

EXHIBIT I-125

EXHIBIT I-12

3028