

UPDATED NOTICE OF PROPOSED UPDATED PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL FOR
N-NITROSODIMETHYLAMINE (NDMA) IN DRINKING WATER, 45-DAY
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP

December 12, 2024

This announcement includes an updated date of January 24, 2025, for the public workshop.

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is announcing a proposed updated Public Health Goal (PHG) for N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) in drinking water, the availability of a draft technical support document, a 45-day public comment period, and a hybrid public workshop on January 24, 2025.

The California Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996¹ requires OEHHA to develop PHGs based exclusively on public health considerations.² A PHG is the level of a drinking water contaminant at which adverse health effects are not expected to occur from a lifetime of exposure. NDMA is a known carcinogen. For carcinogens, health-protective water concentrations are determined for both cancer and noncancer effects, and the lowest (most health-protective) value is selected as the PHG. PHGs published by OEHHA are considered by the State Water Resources Control Board in setting drinking water regulatory standards (Maximum Contaminant Levels, or MCLs) for California.³

The draft technical support document, available for download, presents the scientific information available on the cancer and noncancer toxicity of NDMA. The proposed updated PHG for NDMA of 0.0005 parts per billion (ppb) is based on bile duct, liver cell, and mesenchymal tumors in male rats administered NDMA orally.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any interested person or their authorized representative may submit public comments relevant to the proposed PHG from December 6, 2024 to January 20, 2025. The public is encouraged to submit written comments via OEHHA's website, rather than in paper form. Comments may be submitted electronically through the following link: <https://oehha.ca.gov/comments>.

Hard-copy comments may be mailed or hand-delivered to the address below. Any written comments concerning this draft PHG document, regardless of the form or method of transmission, must be received by the PHG program by January 20, 2025, to be considered.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

¹ Codified at Health and Safety Code section 116270 *et seq.*

² Health and Safety Code section 116365 (c)

³ Health and Safety Code sections 116365(a) and (b)

OEHHA will hold a hybrid public workshop on January 24, 2025.

Location: CalEPA Building
Klamath Room
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Online: Link for registration at <https://oehha.ca.gov/water>

If you have special accommodation or language access needs, please contact Allison Lensing (Allison.Lensing@oehha.ca.gov) by January 06, 2025. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 57003, the public workshop is provided to enable a dialogue between OEHHA scientists and the public to discuss the scientific basis of the proposed PHGs, and to receive comments. After the closure of the comment period, OEHHA will submit the draft risk assessment for external scientific peer review.⁴

Following the public workshop, public comment period, and external scientific peer review, OEHHA will evaluate the comments, revise the document as appropriate, and make it available for an additional 30-day public comment period. The final technical support document will be posted on the OEHHA website.

OEHHA is subject to the California Public Records Act and other laws that require the release of certain information upon request. Your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information such as your name, screen name, address, and email address may be available to third parties.

If you would like to receive further information on this announcement or have questions, please contact Hermelinda Jimenez at PHG.Program@oehha.ca.gov or at (916) 324-7572. Written inquiries should be sent to:

Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
California Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 4010, MS-12B
Sacramento, California 95812-4010
Attention: PHG Program

⁴ Health and Safety Code section 116365(c)(3)(D)