Purpose & Scope: Ensure water quality of emergency sources meets drinking water standards.

Procedure/Process:

If an emergency groundwater source is to be activated and has DWS plan review approval, public water suppliers must ensure each regulated contaminant specified in OAR 333-061-0036 has been sampled at the required frequency according to the EPA Standard Monitoring Framework. Startup sampling will evaluate acute contaminants and immediate human health risk. Past chemical monitoring for the emergency source should be reviewed for known contamination.

If the emergency source’s sample results do not comply with bacteriological and/or chemical standards for regulated contaminants as required in OAR 333-061-0030 or startup sample results are not available when water is sent to the distribution system, public notice under OAR 333-061-0042 may be required. Notify DMCE to activate the emergency source in SDWIS and create applicable chemical monitoring schedules. Sample results must be received by DMCE for compliance.

**Startup Sampling for Acute Contaminants:**

**Coliform bacteria** must be collected at the emergency source’s raw water sample tap (SRC) unless 4-log viral disinfection is verified and approved. **Nitrate** is collected at the entry point sample tap (EP). If one or more sources are on the same entry point as the emergency source, sampling must represent water people are drinking most of the year. Sample results should be reviewed by the water system’s regulator before the emergency source serves water.

**Chemical Sampling for Chronic Contaminants:**

Depending on the system’s classification (C, NTNC, TNC), chemical monitoring for **IOC, nitrite, arsenic*, VOC, SOC, and RAD** may be required if the emergency source has not been sampled during the monitoring period the source was used. [*E.g., if an emergency source has not been used for five years and was previously scheduled to sample VOC every three years, VOC sampling would be needed.*]

Review current and expired monitoring schedules and/or the latest chemical results to determine when each chemical group was last sampled. Chemical samples are to be collected at the emergency source’s entry point (EP).

*Some emergency sources may have a history of moderate to high arsenic levels. In such cases, arsenic should be sampled at startup to determine human health risk.

**Emergency Source versus Seasonal Availability:**

Emergency sources activated yearly to accommodate peak demand or for other reasons may need to be reclassified as seasonally available specifying months when the water source is in use (e.g., June through September).