

Guidance for Submission of Water Quality Data in Registration Review

June 2014

Goal: An important goal of the Agency's pesticide registration review process is to prevent or resolve water quality issues related to the use of pesticides. Easy access to and consideration of water monitoring data can help the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) characterize pesticide exposures to water resources, design effective risk mitigation and evaluate whether risk mitigation has been achieved. Effectively addressing pesticide water quality concerns through the pesticide registration review process reduces the need for the other EPA programs and state/tribe pesticide and water programs to use their limited resources to address pesticide-impaired waters under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and more efficiently protects human health and the environment from pesticide risks.

Background: When designing the registration review program, OPP, working with the Office of Water, EPA Regions, and state partners, developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to encourage submission of state/tribal water quality monitoring data in registration review. On March 14, 2014, based on feedback from EPA Regions and states partners, OPP updated this SOP/guidance in an effort to obtain additional data. The guidance clarifies where and when to submit data and how OPP uses monitoring data in its risk assessment process.

Key Elements of the Revised Guidance:

- Distinguishes key data elements vs. other valuable information to include in data submissions
- Clarifies when to submit water monitoring data to OPP
- Establishes a dedicated mailbox for submission of data: OPPWaterMonitoringData@epa.gov
- Includes contacts at EPA HQ and Regional Offices
- Clarifies how OPP uses water quality monitoring data in its aquatic exposure assessments: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/aquatic-exposure-assessment.pdf

To access the revised guidance, click on the following link:

http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/water_quality.htm