

To add to definition section in 17.30 subchapter 6:

Definition of non-anthropogenic condition: Non-anthropogenic condition means the background concentration of a parameter in surface water or groundwater due only to non-anthropogenic sources, i.e., non human-induced sources.

Definition of performance-based method: Performance-based method means an adopted water quality standard which is a specific process that defines a methodology leading to and describing implementation of a numeric water quality criterion. It may be used for the derivation of site-specific numeric criteria or for interpreting narrative criteria into quantifiable measures.

NEW RULE. (1) Performance-based methods will be developed for parameters as necessary to facilitate the development of site-specific criteria where existing water quality standards are more stringent than the non-anthropogenic condition of the waterbodies.

(2) The minimum dataset appropriate for the parameter will be specified in the performance-based method. Data must be sufficient to define the following characteristics of the waterbody or waterbodies:

(a) Parameter concentration and flow data collected must reflect seasonal and temporal variability

(b) Parameter concentration and flow data collection points must be sufficiently spaced to appropriately represent the spatial boundaries of the waterbody or waterbodies of concern and fully characterize the conditions within the waterbody or waterbodies.

(c) All beneficial uses of the waterbody(ies) must be clearly described.

(d) All potential anthropogenic contributions of the parameter(s) must be described.

(e) [Others?]

(3) The non-anthropogenic condition of a waterbody may be determined through modeling, comparison to an appropriate reference site, mass balance loading, or other methods determined appropriate by the department and the board.

(4) Site-specific criteria calculations will be based only on the non-anthropogenic condition of the waterbody, excluding all contributions from anthropogenic sources. Beneficial use protection will be considered when determining an appropriate method of calculating the site-specific criteria.

(5) The performance-based method must include, in addition to data needs and a specific calculation to derive site-specific criteria, specific procedures for implementation of the resulting water quality criteria including provisions that ensure protection of downstream water quality standards.