



EPA NATIONAL DRINKING WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL

NDWAC Members

Gregg Grunenfelder,
Chair
Olympia, WA

Nancy Beardsley
Augusta, ME

Jeff Cooley
Vacaville, CA

Dennis Diemer
Oakland, CA

Rebecca Head
Monroe, MI

Timothy Kite
Decatur, IL

Olga Morales-Sanchez
Dona Ana, NM

Jennifer Nuzzo
Baltimore, MD

Douglas Owen
White Plains, NY

David Saddler
Sells, AZ

Duane Smith
Oklahoma City, OK

Carl Stephani
Unionville, CT

Jeff Taylor
Houston, TX

Lynn Thorp
Washington, DC

Brian Wheeler
Kissimmee, FL

November 7, 2008

Mr. Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D. C. 20460

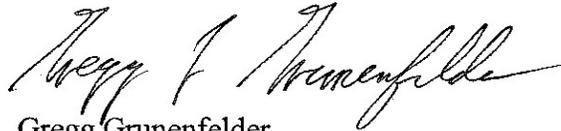
Dear Administrator Johnson:

On October 10, 2008 EPA published in the *Federal Register* the Agency's preliminary regulatory determination for perchlorate in drinking water. In that preliminary determination the Agency has concluded that a national primary drinking water regulation for perchlorate would not present a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for persons served by public water systems. The comment period on this determination ends on November 10th. The National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) requests the comment period be extended for 30 days in order to afford the NDWAC an opportunity to discuss the preliminary determination at the Council's upcoming meeting November 19 – 21, 2008 and to consider whether or not the Council could provide meaningful feedback to EPA on this important decision.

As you know, perchlorate has been found as a drinking water contaminant in many drinking water wells across the United States. Perchlorate has also been associated with effects on the thyroid, by decreasing iodide uptake, causing particular health concerns for pregnant women, infants, children, and people with low iodide intake and/or pre-existing thyroid problems. The NDWAC recognizes the importance of EPA's regulatory determination on this complex issue and would very much appreciate the opportunity to further consider and discuss the determination at our upcoming meeting. This discussion will only be of value to EPA if an extension to the comment period is granted. It is for this reason that the NDWAC respectfully requests a 30 day extension to the current comment deadline.

Thank you for considering this request. Members look forward to continuing to fulfill our role of providing EPA with valuable feedback. If you have any questions, please contact Veronica Blette, Designated Federal Officer for the NDWAC, at (202) 564-4094.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg F. Grunenfelder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gregg Grunenfelder

Chair

National Drinking Water Advisory Council

cc:

Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for Water

Cynthia C. Dougherty, Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water