



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

FOR RELEASE: July 5, 2012
MEDIA CONTACT: Linda Fee Oros, (614) 644-2160
CITIZEN CONTACT: Mary McCarron, (614) 644-2160

**Ohio EPA Proposes Rule Changes
to Pretreatment and Indirect Discharge Program**

Ohio EPA is proposing to amend rules that regulate allowable industrial wastewater discharges that require pretreatment before being routed to public wastewater treatment systems.

A public hearing on the proposed changes will be held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012, at 10:30 a.m. at Ohio EPA, Conference Room A, 50 West Town Street, Suite 700, Columbus.

Proposed changes to the rule being proposed include:

- add a definition for non-contact cooling water;
- add administrative requirements for a toxic organics management plan; and
- clarify that all information submitted to the state or a publicly owned treatment plant must be available for public access.

Industrial users discharge process wastewater that is often contaminated with a variety of toxic or harmful substances which publically owned treatment facilities are typically not specifically designed to treat and clean. Therefore, pretreatment programs are necessary to eliminate the potential of serious harm to the environment or human health when discharged into public sewer systems. This pretreatment is required by the federal Clean Water Act. These rule changes are part of Ohio EPA's five-year rule review.

For more information about the proposed rulemaking governing pretreatment and indirect discharge permits, or to receive a copy of the proposed rules, contact Ryan Laake at (614) 644-2134 or visit http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/rules/prop_pretreatment_jun12.aspx.

Persons wishing to be on Ohio EPA's interested party mailing list or submit written comments can contact Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water, Rule Coordinator, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049, or e-mail ryan.laake@epa.state.oh.us. Comments will be accepted through Wednesday, July 11, 2012. Ohio EPA will consider all comments and make any necessary changes before adopting the rules.