CHAPTER 7 - OPERATING POTABLE WATER SYSTEMS AT USACE PROJECTS AND FACILITIES

7-1. Purpose. This chapter establishes the policy for compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and for operating potable water systems at USACE projects and facilities.

7-2. Applicability. This regulation applies to all USACE commands having responsibility for civil works functions, including floating plant, and to military-funded facilities and activities.

7-3. Policy. It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers that:

a. The USACE will provide drinking water to projects and facilities in accordance with the requirements of the SDWA and applicable state and local regulations. Drinking water provided on USACE floating plant will meet the drinking water quality standards of the SDWA. Drinking water provided for military-unique field operations will meet the requirements of Army Surgeon General Directives.

(1) The major provisions outlined in the SDWA include:

(a) Primary and Secondary Drinking Water Standards.

(b) Limits on allowable lead content in materials used to distribute water.

(c) Lead Contamination Control Act.

(d) Groundwater source protection programs.

(2) The major provisions of applicable state and local regulations include:

(a) Criteria for operation and maintenance practices.

(b) Plans/programs to safeguard drinking water quality and quantity, both at the source and in the distribution system.

b. USACE projects, facilities, and activities will develop and implement water conservation measures in accordance with the Energy Policy Act of 1992, Subpart F (PL 102-486), and EO 12902.

c. USACE projects and facilities will obtain and comply with all necessary National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, water appropriation and use permits, or other permits which may be required for the operation of drinking water treatment systems.

d. Civil works projects and facilities will manage drinking water data as prescribed by the local district.