

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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February 17, 2026

Paula Tran, State Health Officer/Administrator
Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health
1 West Wilson St.
Madison WI 53707-2659

Subject: Request for Recommendations for State Groundwater Quality Standards

Dear Ms. Tran:

The Department of Natural Resources is requesting that the Wisconsin Department of Health Services recommend groundwater quality enforcement standards for the 21 pesticide substances in Attachment 1.

These substances have either been found in the groundwater resources of the state, or have a reasonable probability of being detected in groundwater and are of public health concern.

The department plans to promulgate state groundwater quality enforcement standards and preventive action limits for these substances in ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code, based on recommendations provided by your agency. These numerical standards, upon adoption, will become criteria for the protection of public health and are tools available to the department and other state regulatory agencies that provide uniform standards for groundwater regulatory programs. The department recognizes that there is a substantial benefit to the citizens of Wisconsin from preventing and remediating pesticide contamination, including benefits to human health and wellbeing, economic productivity, and ecosystem integrity.

This request is made pursuant to section 160.07, Stats., and the list of substances in Attachment 1 has been categorized and ranked in accordance with section 160.05, Stats. The department considered available information, including whether a substance has been shown to cause carcinogenic, mutagenic, teratogenic, or interactive effects, when ranking the substances on the list.

We appreciate your assistance and look forward to working with you in our joint effort to protect public health and the environment.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Bart Sponseller

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Bart A. Sponseller, Administrator
Division of Environmental Management

cc:

Jordan Murray – DHS

Carla Romano – DNR

Mark McColloch – DATCP

Sarah Yang – DHS

Steve Elmore – DNR

Robby Personette – DATCP

Mark Werner – DHS

Joe Van Rossum – DNR

Tim Anderson – DATCP

Attachment 1

List with categorization and ranking of 21 pesticide substances of public health concern.

Substance	CAS RN¹	Category²	Rank
Boscalid	188425-85-6	II	Medium
Chlorantraniliprole	500008-45-7	II	Medium
Chlorothalonil	1897-45-6	II	High
4-hydroxy-2,5,6-trichloroisophthalonitrile (metabolite of chlorothalonil)	28343-61-5	II	High
Clothianidin	210880-92-5	II	Medium
Cyantraniliprole	736994-63-1	II	Medium
Dimethenamid ethane sulfonic acid (ESA)	205939-58-8	II	High
Dimethenamid oxanilic acid (OA or OXA)	380412-59-9	II	High
Dinotefuran	165252-70-0	II	Medium
Fomesafen	72178-02-0	II	Medium
Glyphosate	1071-83-6	II	High
Hydroxyatrazine	2163-68-0	II	High
Imidacloprid	138261-41-3	II	High
Isoxaflutole	141112-29-0	II	High
Isoxaflutole diketonitrile (DKN)	143701-75-1	II	High
Metalaxyl	57837-19-1	II	Medium
Metribuzin desamino (DA)	35045-02-4	II	High
Metribuzen desaminodiketo (DADK)	52236-30-3	II	High
Sulfentrazone	122836-35-5	II	Medium
Sulfentrazone 3-Carboxylic Acid	134391-01-8	II	High
Thiamethoxam	153719-23-4	II	High

¹ CAS RN – Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) registry number (RN).

² Category I – substance has been detected in groundwater in concentrations exceeding a federal number.

Category II – substance has been detected in groundwater in concentrations not exceeding a federal number, or the substance has been detected in groundwater but no federal number has been established.

Category III – substance has a reasonable probability of being detected in groundwater and is of public health or welfare concern.