

A vertical photograph of a waterfall cascading over dark rocks, with water splashing and creating white foam at the bottom. The image is positioned on the left side of the slide.

NPDES Permitting- Mercury

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A photograph of a waterfall cascading over dark, mossy rocks. The water is white and frothy as it falls, creating a sense of movement and natural beauty. The background is dark and out of focus, emphasizing the water.

NPDES Mercury Effluent Monitoring

- **NPDES limit and/or monitoring requirement**
- **Municipal Pretreatment requirement- LTMP/STMP**
- **Permit application**



NPDES

Analytical Requirements

- Use analytical methods specified in 40 CFR 136
- Use approved method with $DL < \text{Permit Limit}$. If not available, use method with lowest DL.

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WQS Comparison

- EPA Method 245.1= 0.200 ug/l
- NC WQS = 0.012 ug/l
- EPA Method 1631= 0.0005 ug/l

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Limit Development

- **Permit limit may incorporate s7Q10 dilution (Limit = WQS X Dilution Factor).**
- **For 303(d) impaired waters, dilution may not be allowed.**
- **Limit expressed as Daily Maximum Limit.**

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Limit Development

- **A mercury limit is added when data indicates “ a reasonable potential to exceed the WQS.”**
- **Data= DMRs, Pretreatment, Application**

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Monitoring Frequency

- **Hg Limit/Monitoring**
 - Weekly to Monthly
- **Pretreatment LTMP/STMP**
 - Quarterly to Annual

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Mercury Timetable

- **Method 1631 approved in 40 CFR 136 in June 1999**
- **Additional Revisions approved and pending**
- **Based on EPA agreement, NPDES will start requiring 1631 by September 1, 2003 for applicable facilities.**

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Who must use 1631 for Effluent Samples?

- **Applicable facilities include:**
 - Compliance monitoring for permit limits < 0.20 ug/l.
 - Pretreatment facilities with limited dilution.
 - Categorical industrials with limited dilution.
- **Pending Letter**

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Remember...

- **Data are used to determine need for limits.**
- **Data are ultimate responsibility of permittee.**
- **Therefore, permittee should thoroughly evaluate sampling strategy and contract lab capability.**

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NPDES Contact

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