

Joint Committee Issue Document

NOTE: An issue document may be submitted at any time – it comprises two parts: the cover sheet (this page) and a description of the issue to be submitted to the Joint Committee (following page). A separate issue form is required for each issue submitted. Issue papers include proposals for modification of a standard, information reports and (of current research, etc.). An issue paper shall be categorized as being for ACTION or for INFORMATION. Submitters should limit the Issue Paper to 1 or 2 pages – attachments detailing full recommendations or background information may be attached with supplementary information. The Chairperson of the appropriate Joint Committee will respond within 30 days of receipt of the issue document advising what steps will be taken. Any issue document intended for discussion at a Joint Committee meeting must be received at least 21 days prior to the meeting to ensure inclusion in the agenda.

Submit to:

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Signature of Submitter *Clif McLellan

Date: 12/12/07

**Type written name will suffice as signature*

Please indicate if you wish the item to be considered as an action item or as an information item.

Action: ☒

Information: ☐

NSF Standard(s) Impacted:

NSF/ANSI 61

Issue Statement:

Provide a concise statement of the issue, which reference as appropriate any specific section(s) of the standard(s) that are related to the issue.

Clarifications are needed to emphasize information requirements and formulation dependant analyte selection procedures.

Background:

Provide a brief background statement indicating the cause and nature of concern, the impacts identified relevant to public health, public understanding, etc, and any other reason why the issue should be considered by the Committee.

This clarification is an attempt to make clear the minimum effort that should occur by all certifiers when stating a product meets the requirements of this standard. These clarifications are consistent with the practice and interpretation of NSF 61 by NSF International Certification Programs over the past 20 years. NSF recognizes that the information gathering phase can be difficult but the 30,000 products that we have certified demonstrates that it is possible and we also think it is paramount to assuring that formulation dependant analysis is performed and the appropriate testing occurs.

NSF/ANSI 61, and subsequent product certifications against it, replaced the USEPA Additives Advisory Program for drinking water system components in April 1990. NSF/ANSI 61 was developed to establish minimum requirements for the control of potential adverse human health effects from products that contact drinking water. Formulary disclosure and review was the keystone of the USEPA Additives Advisory Program and the origination of this Standard and NSF thinks it should stay that way. While NSF recognizes that a lot has been learned since 1990 regarding formulations of materials we do not think a certifier can determine the appropriate test parameters based on the material type and only run general scans as some certifiers claim. Nor do we believe it is appropriate to only run scans as a replacement for formulation disclosure for products that are used in and near residential buildings. While scans can be useful in qualitative assessments, they frequently do not appropriately quantify the level of an extractant. In addition, the argument that general scans are capable of identifying all compounds of concern is misguided and not based on sound chemical and scientific principals. We do think that exceptions can be made for very high flow products as we have done with the diluted surface area exemptions and we will propose further revisions to that section in a subsequent ballot to make it more efficient to apply to municipal water treatment equipment.

Recommendation:

*If action by the Joint Committee is being requested, clearly state what action is needed: e.g., recommended changes to the standard(s) including the current text of the relevant section(s) indicating deletions by use of ~~strike-out~~ and additions by **highlighting**; e.g., reference of the issue to a Task Force for detailed consideration; etc. If recommended text changes are more than a half page, please attach a separate document.*

See ballot.