

Joint Committee on Drinking Water Additives – System Components

4/19/2024

Proposed revision to NSF/ANSI/CAN 61 – Drinking Water System Components – Health Effects (61i175r1)

Revision 1 of NSF/ANSI/CAN 61, issue 175 is being forwarded to the Joint Committee for consideration. Please review the proposal and **submit your ballot by May 10, 2024** via the NSF Online Workspace.

Please review all ballot materials. When adding comments, please include the section number applicable to your comment and add all comments under one comment number whenever possible. If you need additional space, please use the attached blank comment template in the reference documents and upload online via the browse function.

Purpose

The proposed revision will update language in Section 3 of this standard to prohibit the intentional use of asbestos containing material.

Background

Due to the negative health effects associated with the use of asbestos and the heavily restricted legal landscape for new and existing uses of asbestos in the U.S. and Canada, it is proposed that the use of asbestos within products evaluated to NSF 61 be restricted. This will prevent inadvertent certification of products that are not legally able to be manufactured or imported into the US and Canada and limit exposure of this harmful contaminant in drinking water.

NSF does not currently certify any products containing asbestos, so it is estimated that this would have a minimal effect on existing manufacturers, but this would prevent evaluation of any new asbestos-containing products to NSF 61.

If you have any questions about the technical content of the ballot, you may contact me in care of:

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[Note – the recommended changes to the standard which include the current text of the relevant section(s) indicate deletions by use of strikeout and additions by grey highlighting. Rationale Statements are in *italics* and only used to add clarity; these statements will NOT be in the finished publication.]

NSF/ANSI/CAN Standard for Drinking Water Additives –

Drinking Water System Components – Health Effects

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3 General requirements

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3.6 Lead content of products

With the exception of those exempted in the Safe Drinking Water Act of the United States, the wetted surfaces of products shall have a weighted average lead content $\leq 0.25\%$ when evaluated in accordance with NSF/ANSI/CAN 372. For the purpose of this section, product shall refer to anything individually evaluated for compliance under the standard, including materials and components. Solders and fluxes shall have a lead content no more than 0.2%.

3.7 Restriction on use of asbestos-containing products

There shall be no asbestos added as an intentional ingredient in any product, component, or material submitted for evaluation to this standard.

3.78 Exposure protocol

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Rationale: NSF does not currently certify any products containing asbestos. This would prevent the evaluation of any new asbestos-containing products to NSF 61 and prevent inadvertent certification of products that are not legally able to be manufactured or imported into the US and Canada and limit exposure of this harmful contaminant in drinking water.