

Issue 3/2018

Water Framework Directive: watchlist updated!

June 2018 saw the updating of the watchlist for priority substances under the Water Framework Directive and Priority Substances Directive.

Article 8b(1) of Directive 2008/105/EC provides for the establishment of a watch list of substances for which Union-wide monitoring data are to be gathered for the purpose of supporting future prioritisation exercises in accordance with Article 16(2) of Directive 2000/60/EC.

The first watch list of substances was set out in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/495 (3) and contained ten substances or groups of substances, together with an indication of the monitoring matrix, possible analytical methods not entailing excessive costs, and maximum acceptable method detection limits.

According to Article 8b(2) of Directive 2008/105/EC, the Commission is to update the watch list every two years. When updating the list, the Commission is to remove any substance for which a risk-based assessment as referred to in Article 16(2) of Directive 2000/60/EC can be concluded without additional monitoring data.

The 2018 update provides for inclusion of three new substances (insecticide Metaflumizon, antibiotics Axoxicillin and Ciprofloxacin).

Watch list of substances for Union-wide monitoring as set out in Article 8b of Directive 2008/105/EC

Name of substance/group of substances	CAS number ⁽¹⁾	EU number ⁽²⁾	Indicative analytical method ⁽³⁾ ⁽⁴⁾	Maximum acceptable method detection limit (ng/l)
17-Alpha-ethinylestradiol (EE2)	57-63-6	200-342-2	Large-volume SPE - LC-MS-MS	0,035
17-Beta-estradiol (E2), Estrone (E1)	50-28-2, 53-16-7	200-023-8	SPE - LC-MS-MS	0,4
Macrolide antibiotics ⁽⁵⁾			SPE - LC-MS-MS	19
Methiocarb	2032-65-7	217-991-2	SPE - LC-MS-MS or GC-MS	2
Neonicotinoids ⁽⁶⁾			SPE - LC-MS-MS	8,3
Metaflumizone	139968-49-3	604-167-6	LLE - LC-MS-MS or SPE - LC-MS-MS	65
Amoxicillin	26787-78-0	248-003-8	SPE - LC-MS-MS	78
Ciprofloxacin	85721-33-1	617-751-0	SPE - LC-MS-MS	89

⁽¹⁾ Chemical Abstracts Service

⁽²⁾ European Union number – not available for all substances

⁽³⁾ To ensure comparability of results from different Member States, all substances shall be monitored in whole water samples.

⁽⁴⁾ Extraction methods:

LLE — liquid liquid extraction

SPE — solid-phase extraction

Analytical methods:

GC-MS — Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry

LC-MS-MS — Liquid chromatography (tandem) triple quadrupole mass spectrometry

⁽⁵⁾ Erythromycin (CAS number 114-07-8, EU number 204-040-1), Clarithromycin (CAS number 81103-11-9), Azithromycin (CAS number 83905-01-5, EU number 617-500-5)

⁽⁶⁾ Imidacloprid (CAS number 105827-78-9/ 138261-41-3, EU number 428-040-8), Thiacloprid (CAS number 111988-49-9), Thiamethoxam (CAS number 153719-23-4, EU number 428-650-4), Clothianidin (CAS number 210880-92-5, EU number 433-460-1), Acetamiprid (CAS number 135410-20-7/160430-64-8)

Read the full text of the legislation in all EU languages

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/840 of 5 June 2018 establishing a watch list of substances for Union-wide monitoring in the field of water policy pursuant to Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/495

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2018.141.01.0009.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2018:141:TOC

Read the text of the earlier watchlist (Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/495) in all EU languages

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2015.078.01.0040.01.ENG

For cross reference, read article 8 of the underlying Directive 2008/105/EC ('Priority Substances Directive')

Article 8 "Review of Annex X to Directive 2000/60/EC"

Within the framework of the review of Annex X to Directive 2000/60/EC, as provided for in Article 16(4) of that Directive, the Commission shall consider inter alia the substances set out

in Annex III to this Directive for possible identification as priority substances or priority hazardous substances. The Commission shall report the outcome of its review to the European Parliament and to the Council by 13 January 2011. It shall accompany the report, if appropriate, with relevant proposals, in particular proposals to identify new priority substances or priority hazardous substances or to identify certain priority substances as priority hazardous substances and to set corresponding EQS for surface water, sediment or biota, as appropriate.