



Metals in Water

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Statement of the Issue

- During the 2006 assessment, a number of new water bodies indicated impairment status related to metals in water in several east Texas water bodies.
- The data that indicated impairment was not consistent with other metals in water data or with the lack of probable metals sources.
- Upon further investigation it was determined that the available data had been collected using two different clean metals kits that appeared to produce different results.
- Both kit types were consistent with EPA Method 1669.



Guidance for 2006 IR

- Assess all available metals in water data.
- Potential new listings for metals in water were not added to the 303(d) List pending the collection of additional data to verify the impairment.



Guidance for 2008 IR

- No metals in water data were assessed due to the new SAS tools inability to handle non-detects at that time.
- No new information about the cause of the metals in water data discrepancy was known at the time of the 2008 Assessment. The potential segments with metals in water were not added to the 2008 303(d) either.
- Metals in water assessment results from the 2006 assessment were repeated in the 2008 IR for the segments that were targeted in 2008.

Proposed Guidance for 2010 IR

- Assess all available metals in water data. The SAS tool has been updated to correctly handle non-detect data. Additional data was collected as part of SWQM special study using the Nationally commonly used filters.
- Water bodies with impairments will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- Water bodies without enough data to make a clear determination will be evaluated when additional data has been collected using the standard EPA Method 1669 protocol.

