

Options to Comply with the IDSE?

What is the IDSE? What is its purpose?

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) is the first part of the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 DBPR). IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids (HAA5) in their distribution system. Water systems will use the results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

Do I have to comply with the IDSE?

You have to if you are a **community** water system that treats water with any disinfectant other than ultraviolet light (UV), or if you are a community **consecutive system** that delivers water that has been treated with a disinfectant other than UV.

Options to Comply with the IDSE

There are **four (4)** options to comply with the IDSE:

- Qualify for a **Very Small System (VSS) Waiver**: If you serve less than 500 people and have a set of TTHM/HAA5 data you will automatically qualify for a VSS waiver and are waived of conducting an IDSE. EPA will inform you of this waiver. If you do not have any TTHM/HAA5 data, you can take a set of samples during the summer months of 2006 or 2007 and send us the results. EPA will inform you of this waiver once we receive your data.
- Meet the **40/30 Certification requirement**: If you have 8 consecutive quarters of data to show TTHM/HAA5 levels that are consistently below respective 40/30 mg/L and there is no Stage 1 DBPR violation against you, you are waived of conducting an IDSE. You do not have to do anything other than send EPA a signed certification letter by the deadline of your assigned schedule (April/01/2007, October/01/2007, or April/01/2008).
- Conduct a **System Specific Study (SSS)** for the IDSE using existing (Stage 1 DBPR and others) monitoring results, or a distribution system hydraulic model.
- Conduct **Standard Monitoring** for the IDSE.

For more information, please visit the www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/stage2, or call Mary Wu at 1-800-227-8917 ext. 6789.