



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

# Department of Environmental Protection

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## **Bulk Water Suppliers** **Sampling Requirements And Transport Responsibility**

Effective Date: August 31, 1993

Policy # BRP/DWM/DWP/Policy #92-07

Amended Dates: 8/25/2003, 3/26/2008, 11-20-2014, 5/1/2020

Program Applicability: Drinking Water Program

Approved by: [signed] David Y. Terry, Drinking Water Program Director

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This policy is adopted to clarify the MassDEP, Drinking Water Program's position regarding the status of Bulk Storage and Transportation of Water in the Commonwealth when the water is to be used for public water supply purposes. Bulk Water is defined as water intended for potable uses which is transported via tanker truck or an equivalent means from one area to another for the purpose of treatment, packaging and/or human consumption.

### **Rationale**

Bulk water source(s)/supplies not used in food or bottling operations located in Massachusetts are currently not specifically regulated by the Department of Public Health (DPH). Only those Bulk sources/supplies, which have received MassDEP approval as a PWS source may sell water to public water systems. When these sources/supplies are used by a MassDEP regulated public water system these bulk sources/supplies must meet the applicable MassDEP minimum drinking water standards.

### **Policy**

It is the policy of the Drinking Water Program (DWP) to require approval, in compliance with Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, of bulk water supply sources located in Massachusetts which are intended to supply drinking water to public water systems on an emergency or other basis, or to bottled water operations or to vending systems or for any other potable purpose.

#### **A. Bulk Water Sources Requirements**

Routine monitoring for Bulk water supply sources will be equivalent to those required for a community public water system serving 10,000 or more people unless the bulk water supply source owner certifies in writing that they will not supply water to a community or non-transient non-community water system or a bottling facility. The source would then be monitored as a transient non-community water system.

## **B. Water Hauler (Bulk Water Transporter) Requirements**

- I. If Bulk Water is to be provided to a public water system (PWS) on an emergency or other basis as defined by 310 CMR 22.00 and DWP guidelines and policies, MassDEP will require that the PWS ensures compliance for the transportation of such water in accordance with DWP's document titled Procedures for Emergency Tank Truck Bulk Water Hauling and the following requirements:
- (A) All source water storage facilities shall be maintained clean and sanitary at all times.
  - (B) Bulk tanks, hoses, pumps and connections used for loading, transporting and unloading water shall be sanitized prior to receiving each load of water.
  - (C) All surfaces that come into contact with water during transport shall be made of a smooth, impervious, nonabsorbent, corrosion-resistant and nontoxic material such as stainless steel in compliance with American National Standard Institute/American Water Works Association specifications D100, D102, and D105, or an equally corrosion-resistant, nontoxic material.
  - (D) Transport tanks, filling and delivery hoses and connections shall be cleaned and sanitized each time they are emptied. A record of all cleaning and sanitizing must show the date, time, place, and signature and name of the employee or contract operator doing the work, shall be maintained with the vehicle and shall be made available when requested by MassDEP.
  - (E) Equipment used for transport of water in bulk shall not be used for protein or fat-containing beverages or food products or for any non-food products.

Note: Additional information on procedures for emergency tank truck bulk water hauling can be accessed at the MassDEP's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/emergency-response-for-public-water-systems#bulk-water>.

- II. Bulk tanker trucks transporting water to a facility from sources of supply other than those owned by the water supplier shall be marked with the name and address of the bulk water hauler. For each shipment, a bill of lading/chain of custody document shall be prepared and available upon request containing at least the following information
- (A) Name and address of the owner of the water source
  - (B) Water source
  - (C) Date of loading
  - (D) Gallons of source water delivered
  - (E) Date and time delivered at the plant

A bill of landing/chain of custody document titled Bulk Water Delivery Inspection Form is available at the following MassDEP web address: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/bulk-water-delivery-inspection-form>.

- III. If the bulk water is to be provided to a water-bottling plant or other operations under the jurisdiction of DPH, MassDEP responsibilities will be limited to source approval.

### **C. Requirements of Public Water Supplier Using Bulk Water**

- I. If the Bulk Water is to be provided to a public water system and the receiving public water system cannot be assured that the tank truck, that routinely delivers the water, has only transported water from an approved Massachusetts or other state public drinking water source and that the water in the tank truck always met the Massachusetts drinking water standards for public water systems, the receiving system will be required to take additional bacteria samples for each tank of water received. The DWP may require other samples as necessary.
- II. A water system that plans to use trucked water in response to an emergency shall first contact MassDEP for approval. An emergency declaration may be necessary. The water supplier is responsible for documenting and keeping proper records of the emergency trucked water operation similar to B.II.
- III. The receiving water storage tanks must be inspected to assure that water quality issues will not occur during filling and distribution to consumers. Receiving storage tanks must be cleaned and disinfected using the same procedures identified for the truck containers. Also the receiving tanks must be kept secure and protected from contamination.
- IV. The PWS must maintain a running 12-month record of all water delivered to their facility. The record shall include the date, time, location, water source, source identification number, whether treated or untreated, and the name and signature of the certified operator for the receiving public water system.
- V. Public water systems that receive bulk water for longer than a 12-month period will be required to file an annual report that will provide updated information on the following issues:
  - Chronology of the on-going emergency that resulted in the use of bulk water
  - Plans for resolving the emergency situation
  - Required tank truck sanitation records for the past 12 months
  - Required bulk water source information for the past 12 months

Additional information regarding bulk water is available on MassDEP's website at:

<https://www.mass.gov/lists/emergency-response-for-public-water-systems#bulk-water->.