

**CONSULTATION ON
A TECHNICAL DOCUMENT ABOUT
DICHLOROMETHANE IN DRINKING WATER
PREPARED BY
THE DRINKING WATER COMMITTEE – HEALTH CANADA**

CWWA has reviewed the proposed Guideline for dichloromethane in drinking water. We support the proposed Maximum Acceptable Concentration (MAC), and find the supporting documentation to be a fair and realistic review of the exposure and potential health consequences of dichloromethane. The Chair of our Water Quality Committee Pierre-André Côté, formerly with the City of Québec has provided comments on the French version, reviewing both the Guideline itself and the presentation of the document.

II – Analysis

II – 1 The Guideline itself as it has been published

The approach chosen by the CDW to define the maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) is realistic, as the exposure to dichloromethane through drinking water is minor when compared to other exposures, ambient air and food, for instance.

II – 2 The presentation of the Guideline

While reading the Guideline, a very limited number of “weaknesses” were noted that could be addressed and evaluated by the CDW to possibly improve the final version of the Guideline.

It is suggested that “physicochimique” be written “physico-chimique”. Secondly, the use of the word “strippage”, is not commonly used in French, and it is suggested that an alternate term be used to describe that process. Finally, it is recommended that “eau prête au débit” be replaced by “eau complètement traitée”?