

Section 7 Definitions of USEPA Approved and Accepted

7.1 USEPA approved

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) establishes limits for maximum contamination levels of certain constituents in water. It also requires that specific methodology be used to analyze for these constituents. Sometimes the USEPA develops these methods; more often, the USEPA evaluates methods developed by manufacturers, professional groups, and public agencies such as:

- American Public Health Association
- American Water Works Association
- Water Environmental Federation
- American Society for Testing and Materials
- United States Geological Survey
- Association of Official Analytical Chemists

When a method meets the USEPA criteria, it is *approved*. All USEPA approved methods are cited in the *Federal Register* and compiled in the *Code of Federal Regulations*. USEPA-approved methods may be used for reporting results to the USEPA and other regulatory agencies.

7.2 USEPA accepted

Some procedures are *equivalent* to USEPA approved methods. Even though minor modifications exist, the USEPA has reviewed and accepted certain procedures for reporting purposes. These methods are not published in the *Federal Register*, but are referenced to the equivalent USEPA method in the procedure.