Groundwater Investigation Policy and Procedures

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Program Description

This document describes the Department's policies and procedures for gathering and compiling evidence for a groundwater contamination investigation. During a groundwater investigation the investigators gather evidence through observation, interviewing farmers, commercial applicators and well owners, and possibly collecting physical samples for laboratory analysis.

Authority and Responsibilities

DATCP regulates pesticide and fertilizer related activities that may result in groundwater contamination. The "Groundwater Law" (<u>Ch. 160, Wis. Stats.</u>) and <u>ATCP 31</u>, Wis. Adm. Code, describe DATCP's response to instances where a pesticide or fertilizer substance is detected in groundwater.

Groundwater quality standards have been established for many pesticides and are listed in <u>NR</u> <u>140</u>, Wis. Adm. Code. An "enforcement standard" (ES) and a "preventive action limit" (PAL) are established for each compound.

ATCP 31, Wis. Adm. Code, describes actions DATCP may take in response to groundwater contamination by fertilizer and pesticides. For example, DATCP may perform an investigation to determine the source(s) of pesticide or fertilizer substances found in a groundwater sample collected from a "point of standards application" (as defined in ATCP 31, Wis. Adm. Code). If contamination resulted from a regulated activity, DATCP attempts to determine if a violation of an existing statute, regulation, or department order has occurred. ATCP 31, Wis. Adm. Code, further establishes actions the department may take if contamination exceeds the established PAL or ES for a substance. These actions may include site-specific responses or rule development aimed at assuring compliance with the PAL and ES.

In addition to ATCP 31, Wis. Adm. Code, DATCP has groundwater responsibilities under <u>ATCP</u> 29, Wis. Adm. Code, and <u>ATCP 30</u>, Wis. Adm. Code. ATCP 29, Wis. Adm. Code, specifies proper use, handling and storage requirements for pesticides to prevent groundwater contamination. Provisions of ATCP 30, Wis. Adm. Code, restrict and/or prohibit the use of atrazine and other pesticides in Wisconsin.

Under section <u>93.08</u>, <u>Wis. Stats.</u>, the department and its authorized agents have the authority to enter, during reasonable hours, any field, orchard, garden, packing ground, building, freight or express office, warehouse, car, vessel, vehicle room, cellar, storehouse, cold storage plant, packing house, stockyard, railroad yard or any other place of business, which it may be necessary or desirable for them to enter in performing their duties or in enforcing the laws entrusted to their administration.

Section <u>93.16</u>, <u>Wis. Stats.</u>, authorizes DATCP to initiate a "preliminary investigation" of matters under its jurisdiction, whether or not there is reason to believe that a violation has occurred.

Section <u>93.06(9)</u>, <u>Wis. Stats.</u>, authorizes DATCP to "collect report and illustrate the results of investigations". This implies authority to take photographs, collect physical evidence, and otherwise document the conditions found during an inspection or investigation.

Regulated business/persons must make certain records available for DATCP inspection and copying upon request. The laws we enforce specify that regulated businesses must make certain records available for copying and upon request.

If necessary, DATCP may subpoena other records that are not available for routine inspection. Section <u>93.15(2)</u>, <u>Wis. Stats.</u>, gives the DATCP this authority to have access to and copy any document, or any part thereof, which is in the possession or under the control of any person engaged in business, if such document is relevant to any matter that the department is investigating.

Purpose of the Groundwater Contamination Investigation

The purpose of a groundwater contamination investigation is to attempt to identify the potential sources or activities causing the contamination and to determine if any DATCP rules have been violated. Sources of pesticide and nitrate contamination may include non-point activities (application of pesticides, fertilizer, and manure on agricultural fields) and point sources (spills and improper storage or disposal of pesticides or nitrogen materials).

If the contamination source or activity is regulated by DATCP, the information collected during the investigation may be used to take appropriate compliance and remedial actions. The Environmental Quality Section may work with the Compliance Section (or potentially with the DNR) to implement compliance and remedial actions for pesticide contamination in groundwater. Such actions could include point-source cleanup actions being required, or special orders or administrative rule modifications being proposed to restrict further use of a pesticide.

Initiating a Groundwater Investigation

DATCP can initiate an investigation when an official (as defined in chapter ATCP 31, Wis. Adm. Code) groundwater test result from a "point of standards application" confirms that a pesticide, pesticide metabolite or nitrate is present in a well. Generally two official sample results are needed before a decision is made to proceed with an investigation. Groundwater Specialists in the Environmental Quality Section receive and review sample data from several sources (DNR, county health departments, and the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Center for Watershed Science and Education) to identify pesticide and nitrate test results that may be used to initiate an investigation.

For pesticides, we conduct an investigation whenever a pesticide or pesticide metabolite is confirmed in a well at a level above its enforcement standard. For nitrate, we conduct an investigation when the nitrate level is 40 ppm or higher and we are asked by a well owner or government entity to investigate. We can also conduct either a pesticide or nitrate investigation at lower concentrations or without a request at our discretion. Most DATCP groundwater contamination investigations involve private drinking water wells, but contamination of public wells and monitoring wells may also be investigated.

When the EQ Section receives a reliable sample result, staff notifies the well owner of the results and our intent to conduct a groundwater investigation. An investigation case folder is created and the case is assigned to an EES and entered into CTS. DATCP may notify other appropriate agencies when starting a new investigation.

Preparing for a Groundwater Contamination Investigation

The Environmental Quality Section Chief assigns a Hydrogeologist to the case who will direct the investigation. This Hydrogeologist should notify appropriate DNR and county staff about the investigation and coordinate with them on certain investigation activities. For example, DNR may be able to collect additional groundwater samples. The Compliance Section Chief assigns a field investigator (EES) to the case that will work with the office investigator from the EQ Section and conduct much of the field work related to the investigation.

The investigation area for a pesticide contamination investigation is a four square mile area centered around the contaminated well. This four square mile investigation area will be delineated on the maps included in the file. For nitrate investigations, the investigation area is a one square mile area around the contaminated well.

The EQ Section office investigator prepares an investigation case file containing relevant forms, maps, sample results, reports, and correspondence. The office and field investigators should review and discuss these materials before beginning the investigation. The information for the case file includes:

- Environmental Quality Section Groundwater Investigation Cover Form
- Plat map
- Map of the investigation area
- Soil survey map
- Topographic map
- Groundwater map if available
- Well construction reports
- Spill history report for the investigation area
- Nearby well sample results in the investigation area

• Correspondence and other miscellaneous information

The field investigator should verify who owns the property with the contaminated well. They may choose to contact the property owner prior to visiting the site. If reasonable (2-3) attempts to locate an owner fail, the field investigator should inform their supervisor to discuss options before any other actions are taken.

Preparing an Investigative File

The EES should keep an investigative file for every investigation he or she conducts. Label the file with the investigation name and case number. The file will contain the evidence you develop as well as your case notes and correspondence. File new evidence (inspection reports, business records, lab reports, etc.) as the investigation proceeds. Document your contacts, observations and actions related to the case. Do not rely on your memory, but document all significant contacts and observations when they occur. Make a dated record of all inspections, telephone conversations, witness interviews and other contacts that may be significant. Remember, our cases are public records. Information kept in the file should only be factual information without personal opinions. See the <u>open records guidance</u>.

Organize the file at the start of the investigation and keep it organized as you proceed. Separate evidentiary items from your personal notes and working papers. It may be helpful to put related materials together in labeled folders and arrange materials in chronological order within each folder.

Conducting a Groundwater Contamination Investigation

The office investigator should direct DATCP's activities, work with the field investigator, track progress and coordinate any activities with other involved agencies throughout the investigation. The office investigator may meet with the field investigator on the first visit to the site of the investigation and may work with the field investigator on additional field work related to the investigation.

The investigators should present identification to all persons interviewed for the investigation. When first visiting the contaminated well site, give a copy of the <u>Well Water Investigations</u> brochure to the well owner and request that he or she read it. If the owner agrees to the investigators should proceed with the investigation. If the owner does not agree to the investigation, the investigators should leave the property. The field investigator should contact their supervisor to discuss options, such as requesting a meeting with the owner, sending a letter of explanation from the Madison office, or obtaining an inspection warrant.

Confirm that the well on the property is the correct well to be investigated. Verify the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) or GPS location of the well and ask if the owner recalls the sample that

initiated the groundwater contamination investigation. The well owner may also remember receiving a letter explaining the results of the groundwater sample.

Physical Site Description

The office investigator and the EES should work together to describe the soil, geology, groundwater, topography and surface water characteristics at the site and in the surrounding investigation area. This brief write-up will be included in the case narrative when the investigation is completed.

Well Information

Attempt to determine if the Wisconsin Unique Well Number (WUWN) in DATCP's or DNR's database is correct. Note the WUWNs of any other wells on the property. If the contaminated well has been abandoned since the sample that initiated the investigation was collected, determine if a replacement well was constructed and, if so, if it has been assigned a WUWN. If a WUWN cannot be located, the field investigator should contact the office investigator to complete a search of databases for the number. If it is determined that a WUWN has not been assigned, the office investigator can assign one.

The field investigator should interview the well owner about the contaminated well. Determine where the groundwater sample initiating the investigation was collected. Possible sites include a sample tap in a well pit, a yard hydrant, a hose bib on the outside of the house, a faucet in the kitchen sink, a sampling tap in the basement, a sink in the milk house, etc. Describe any water treatment device located between the sample site and the well. The presence of a treatment device may explain discrepancies between samples taken on different dates.

Note any well characteristics that may have influenced contamination of groundwater in the well. Focus on characteristics that might have made the wellhead subject to surface water flooding (e.g. the wellhead is located in a "low" spot, or the wellhead appears damaged or aged). See a list of <u>example questions</u> related to well characteristics. Well construction reports also provide useful information about the well and the depth to groundwater and will be provided by the office specialist if available.

Attempt to determine the age of the well, the total depth of the well, the well's casing depth, the depth to groundwater in the well, and the type of well (see below). If the owner is unable to answer these questions, examine the well and associated plumbing to try to determine the well type.

Many well owners are unfamiliar with the construction and condition of their well. Advise the well owner to contact the DNR regional Water Supply Specialist for assistance if the well appears to have serious defects.

The three most common types of wells are drilled, driven point and dug wells.

<u>Drilled Wells</u>: Drilled wells are the most common type of well in upland areas of Wisconsin. In older installations, the associated plumbing and pressure tank are housed in a concrete pit located in the yard or connected to the basement. **Well pits are confined spaces, so do not enter them!** A hydrant is often located near a well pit built in the yard, and a garden hose may be attached to this hydrant for fertilizer makeup water. This setup can cause backflow problems. Newer drilled wells have a pitless adapter, and the pressure tank is either buried next to the well or is in the house.

<u>Driven Point Wells</u>: Driven point wells are often found in sandy areas where groundwater is shallow. There is a high potential for surface water to impact driven point wells, because the depth to water in these wells is typically less than 40 feet. Some older point wells are located inside the house basement (this is no longer allowed by code), while newer ones must be outside.

<u>Dug Wells:</u> Older "dug" wells are encountered occasionally. These wells were dug by hand, are 4-6 feet in diameter, and may be quite deep (30-50 feet). Problems with dug wells are usually related to the fact that the well is not sealed at the surface, which allows surface water to run into the well and contaminate it. These wells are no longer legal in Wisconsin, but old ones may still be encountered.

Many well owners are unfamiliar with the construction and condition of their well. Advise the well owner to contact the DNR regional Water Supply Specialist for assistance if the well appears to have serious defects.

Crop and Pesticide Use Inventory for Pesticide Investigations

The EES should first identify crop fields in the four square mile investigation area where pesticides may have been applied. Prepare a map showing the location of the contaminated well(s) and the fields (by farm operation) where pesticides may have been applied. The ACM Web Mapping Application can be used as a base map for this map or the office investigator can provide a base map showing the investigation area.

The EES should then interview farm operators and commercial applicator businesses to produce an inventory of the pesticides applied to fields in the four square mile investigation area during the past five years. When meeting with involved parties, always introduce yourself, show your state-issued identification and explain the reason for your visit and the investigative process. The purpose of the inventory is to document whether the pesticide contaminating the well has been used in the investigation area. The inventory should include the name of the owner or operator of the field, the name of the pesticide product, the pesticide application rate, and the year the pesticide was applied for each pesticide(s) found in the well. The inventory should also include any other pesticides in the same general class (herbicides, insecticides, or fungicides) that have been applied to the field. Remember that a farmer may use a premix containing atrazine without realizing that atrazine is an active ingredient.

Next the EES should develop a <u>table</u> and <u>map</u> of the 5-year crop and pesticide use history for the fields (by year and farm operation) in the four square mile investigation area, highlighting the fields where the pesticide contaminating the well has been applied. In many cases one map for each of the five years will be the most effective way to show the pesticide use history.

Crop Field and Nitrogen Use Inventory for Nitrate Investigations

The EES should first identify crop fields in the one square mile investigation area where nitrogen fertilizer, animal waste, municipal sewage sludge, septage or other nitrogen-containing materials may have been applied. Prepare a map showing the location of the contaminated well(s) and the fields (by farm operation) where nitrogen may have been applied. The ACM Web Mapping Application can be used as a base map for this map or the office investigator can provide a base map showing the investigation area.

The EES should then interview farm operators to gather the following information about the use of nitrogen on the crop fields in the one square mile investigation area: the typical crop rotation for the field, the target nitrogen application rate for each crop in the rotation, the nitrogen materials (including manure) that are applied to the field, and whether the field is included in a 590 nutrient management plan. The information gathered from these questions should be included in the narrative discussion for each farm operation. When meeting with involved parties, always introduce yourself, show your state-issued identification and explain the reason for your visit and the investigative process.

Point Sources Inventory for Pesticides and Sources of Nitrate

The investigators should interview the well owner and the farm operators in the investigation area to attempt to determine whether point sources such as spills, storage and handling areas, or back-siphoning events related to mixing, loading or chemigation/fertigation may have contributed to contamination in the well. See <u>example interview questions</u> related to point sources and spills. Focus on evaluating the indicators of possible point-source contamination listed below.

- Evidence of spills of pesticides or nitrogen materials (fertilizer, manure, etc.)
- Surface soil residues
- Dead vegetation
- Surface water drainage from a potential point source to a depositional ("low") area
- Areas where water "ponds"
- Possible back-siphoning into a well
- Loading areas for pesticides or nitrogen materials

- Storage areas for pesticides or nitrogen materials
- Locations where application equipment is parked
- Equipment and container cleaning areas and rinsate handling areas
- Other places where pesticide or nitrogen materials may have accumulated on the ground surface

Prepare a detailed site map showing all features associated with storage, handling, spills, and other possible point sources of pesticide or nitrate contamination. Example features may include storage facilities, handling areas, other wells and hydrants, abandoned wells, etc. Locate the contaminated well on the site map.

Collect soil samples, if appropriate, to investigate potential point sources of contamination in the well. See the section below on Procedures for Collecting Environmental Samples below for more information on soil sampling. Prior to collecting any environmental samples, the EES and the office investigator should discuss the need for samples and where they should be collected. Soil samples that contain manure should not be sent to BLS for analysis.

Additional Groundwater Samples

In many cases, the investigators may decide that additional groundwater samples from the contaminated well or nearby wells should be collected to characterize groundwater quality in the area. It may be appropriate to obtain samples from four to eight additional private drinking water wells throughout the investigation area to determine if the contamination is localized or more widespread. The investigators should identify wells for "nearby" samples by observing other potential well sites in the investigation area, analyzing existing well sample data, and checking well construction reports.

The investigators should coordinate their decisions about how many samples to collect, who will collect them, where they will be collected, and what analyses will be requested. Communication with DNR's regional Water Supply Specialist or other interested agencies may be needed.

The office investigator is responsible for generating and mailing sample results letters for each well sampled. If a well without a WUWN is sampled as part of the investigation, the office investigator will assign a WUWN when the results letter is sent to the well owner.

Procedures for Collecting Environmental Samples

The EES may collect and submit samples of physical evidence using methods that maintain the integrity of the evidence. For each type of sample outlined below, follow the <u>Sample Preparation</u> and <u>Handling chart</u> (SPHC) for Container type, Amount of Sample to Collect, Special Instructions, Sample Numbering, How to Prepare Sample, and Packaging Considerations. Samples need to be shipped to the Bureau of Laboratory Services as soon as possible after they are collected.

Always wear disposable gloves (changing between samples), protective clothing, and safety equipment as required by the pesticide label, regulations, and policy when entering fields or handling samples. During all phases of the investigation, be careful not to contaminate yourself or cross-contaminate the samples.

Sample Media

Sample media is the material being sampled and in a groundwater investigation usually includes well water and in some cases soil. Soil samples may be collected to investigate and document a possible point source of pesticide contamination. Well water samples from nearby wells are collected in a groundwater investigation to determine if the contamination is localized or more widespread.

Sampling Equipment

Unless disposable sampling equipment is used, the sampling equipment must be cleaned before sampling and between each sample, using distilled water, alconox soap and alcohol. Decontaminate your sampling equipment, by washing the equipment in alconox and double rinse with distilled water, and then rinse with propyl or isopropyl alcohol (92%). Your equipment should be stored in your truck at all times.

Equipment list may include:

- Sample Collection Record (SCR) form
- Personal protective equipment
- Sample container (paper bags, plastic bags, quart mason jars, etc.)
- Official sample labels, medical tape, official DATCP zip-ties
- Shovel, hand spade, knife, pruning shears, trowel, spatula
- Alconox, isopropyl alcohol, distilled water, paper towels
- Wipes (kept in airtight secured container)
- Blue painters tape (to be used with wipes)
- Measuring tape
- Coolers, "blue-ice" packs, bottles of frozen water (dependent upon type of sample, see SPHC)
- Permanent Sharpie marker, pen, log book
- Flags for identifying sample locations
- Camera for documenting samples and locations
- Water container (with distilled water) and attached sprayer

Sample Collection

For soil samples, the first sample must be a blank or control sample (to validate your equipment), followed by a sample from the location where there is a possible point source. To collect a surface soil sample use a clean hand spade or other tool, obtain the sample by scraping the top one inch of soil from an area approximately 1 foot by 1 foot. If the pesticide residue may be located below the soil surface, subsurface samples should be collected. Soil samples are always collected in order from the least to most contaminated area. If the site has areas of pesticide-stained soil or cupped, curled or discolored vegetation, these are areas that should be considered for sampling.

For well sampling procedures see the <u>Private Well Sampling Instructions</u>. Nearby well sample locations should be chosen in consultation with the office specialist. Wells sampled during the investigation should all be geolocated using GPS.

To maintain the chain of custody that allows the samples to be admissible as evidence, the samples must be in your possession, in your sight, or locked in your vehicle until they are delivered or shipped to the laboratory.

Map of Sample Locations

Draw a map of the incident site as near to scale as possible. Use the measuring tape, or measurements in walking paces (approximately three feet), are acceptable. Identify the location of any samples through triangulation. Maps can be hand drawn (in ink) or electronically prepared. Use of a "key" may help in describing distances and other features. Maps need to include the following information:

- North arrow
- Statement "not drawn to scale"
- Case number, prepared by (your name), date prepared
- Measurement units
- Sampling site locations and distances to landmarks
- Relevant structures and descriptions so the reader gets the general layout of the site
- Road names and home addresses
- Landmarks

Photographs of Sample Locations

Once samples are collected and "sealed", photograph the sample at the point of collection with your used blue gloves in the picture, close-up (showing sample ID number) and from a distance (showing the overall location). Photograph plant symptoms, pesticide granules, unique property features (lot line, ponds, etc.) when necessary. To help in remembering photograph descriptions put an identifier (e.g. #1, 2, 3) near the object to be photographed and then record that identifier in your log book with the description. Flags can also be used to mark sample locations in certain areas such as tall grass.

Use the <u>photo sheet template</u> (ARM-ACM-64) to mount your photographs in chronological order. In the photo description section, only include descriptive language that would enhance language already in the narrative, keep in mind that the narrative report tells the complete story. Include the aspect direction in the photo (e.g. NW).

Sample Collection Record

A Pesticide Sample Collection Record (SCR) must be filled out in indelible ink and accompany the samples to the laboratory. If you know the specific pesticide(s) involved in the potential point source, write the name in the "analysis requested" section. If unknown, circle the appropriate screen. The lab can provide more accurate analyses with more precise information.

Narrative Report

Follow the <u>narrative template</u> in all sections of the report (see completed <u>pesticide</u> and <u>nitrogen</u> narrative examples). Exhibits such as application records, photographs, etc. should supplement your synopsis, but not take the place of it. Exhibits must be chronologically listed in the order in which they were obtained. Use exhibit stickers for all collected evidence and documents. Stickers should be placed in the top right hand corner of the document unless the sticker would obstruct any written portion of that document. In that case, place a sticker in the top right corner of a blank piece of paper and use as a cover sheet for the document. Label the cover sheet with the same description as stated on your exhibits listing located at the end of your narrative. Follow the format of labeling the sticker as observed in the sample narrative. Each subsequent page of an exhibit shall be labeled with the number of the attachment and its sequential order (e.g. 4 - 2 of 3). This information should be recorded as close to the top right hand corner of the document as possible. Identify the exhibits in the narrative as **(Exhibit 1) (Exhibit 2)**, etc. All exhibits should be referenced, if not discussed in the investigation portion of your narrative.

Any documents provided to you should be dated with the date received; your initials and the investigation number on the backside of the document so as not obscure any other information.

Only record substantiated violations. The exception to this rule is when you only have one violation and then you may or may not have substantiated the violation. Violations dependent upon sample results may also be listed, but are not typically substantiated.

Other than in the Persons Involved section, always follow the name of a city with a comma and the state spelled out (e.g. Waupaca, Wisconsin).

The circumstances section serves as a brief description of the events regarding the contaminated well in question and should include the sample date, a brief description of the results, and the

date the investigation was initiated. The investigation section is the complete, chronological story of the events.

When describing an interview or discussion clearly identify the individual at the beginning of the paragraph if they are not listed in the "Persons Involved" section. Identify the individual by spelling their full name followed by last name in parenthesis (e.g. Linda Boswell (Boswell) or Naturescape, Inc. (Naturescape)). From that point forward just use their last name.

Copies of reports completed by other agencies including: state/local agencies, insurance companies, etc. should be identified in the narrative and listed as exhibits. Follow the narrative format for instruction details on violations, chemicals, etc.

Report Submission and Bureau Actions

The narrative should be completed and submitted within 60 days. Self-monitoring of this time frame is anticipated. Please contact your supervisor if you are in need of an extension. Do not print narratives on both sides of the paper or use staples. The only exception is pesticide labels, which can be printed on both sides. The complete investigation file is submitted to the office to include but not limited to the following exhibits:

- 1. Mounted photographs of all documentary and physical evidence
- 2. A diagram of the contaminated well site
- 3. Application records in the investigation area
- 4. Map of crop fields and ownership in the investigation area
- 5. Table of pesticide applications in the investigation area
- 6. Sampling map of soil samples
- 7. Sampling map of additional well samples
- 8. Plat Map

Upon the receipt of the narrative in the office, the Compliance Section Chief and Program Associate log the report as "received in office" in CTS. The Compliance Section Chief and EQ Section investigator review the report and return it for revisions within two weeks. Following submittal of the Final Report, the EQ Section investigator, the EQ Section Chief, the EES and the Compliance Section Chief meet to discuss the need for Bureau actions.

Actions Taken by Bureau

Following submittal of the Final Report, the EQ Section investigator, the EQ Section Chief, the EES and the Compliance Section Chief shall meet to discuss the need for Bureau actions. In preparation for the meeting, the EQ Section investigator shall summarize a recommended action based on ch. ATCP 30 (for atrazine) and ch. ATCP 31 for pesticides and fertilizer contamination.

The range of actions that may be taken include:

- 1. Referral of case to other agency or jurisdiction (close with no disposition)
- 2. Regulatory actions requiring rules, or a new statewide or regional pesticide prohibition area per ATCP 31.08 and/or ATCP 30 (for atrazine)
- 3. Regulatory actions using special orders or denial, suspension or revocation of pesticide use permits for site-specific responses, per ch. ATCP 31.07.
- 4. Regulatory action requiring an investigation and/or cleanup response under ch. 292 Stats. for a pesticide spill or other point source falling under the department's jurisdiction
- 5. Warning notice, civil forfeiture or special order for violations of existing fertilizer or pesticide bulk storage rules

Some examples where case may be referred include:

- 1. The investigation reveals that the likely cause for the well contamination is the well itself. For example, a cracked well casing is allowing contaminated surface water to drain down into the aquifer and well, and there is no indication of widespread contamination.
- 2. Nitrate or ammonia contamination is resulting from non-point fertilizer use, or from animal manure storage/use/handling, rather than from a bulk fertilizer storage issue for fertilizers defined under s. 94.645 Stats.
- 3. A point source is found to exist that falls outside of the department's jurisdiction.

In the above situations, the EQ Section investigator, the EQ Section Chief, the EES and the Compliance Section Chief shall discuss the agencies or other jurisdictions with whom the EQ Section shall communicate the results of the investigation. Upon closure of the investigation, a copy of the case file may be given to the gaining agency having jurisdiction. Such agencies may include our own Land and Water Resources Bureau, the DNR, DHS, or other county land conservation departments.