

SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 requires protection of drinking water systems that are the sole or principal drinking water source for an area and which, if contaminated, would create a significant hazard to public health. Projects must be evaluated to determine if there is any impact if they include development on a sole source aquifer designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or the recharge area. Although the EPA in Alaska as of [do you want to update this date to present?], has designated no sole source aquifers, the designation process is initiated primarily at the request of a petition from the public and so aquifers could be designated in the future.

Level of Concurrence Required: There are no EPA designated “Sole Source Aquifers” located in Alaska. No further review is required at this time. However, EPA cannot predict if there will be future designations. Consequently, the status should be reconfirmed, and annotated on the Statutory Worksheet.

Information regarding the Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program can be found on the Internet at the following address:

Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov

Or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/qrg_ssamap_reg10.pdf

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