



## EPA to Propose Perchlorate Rule by October 2018

Under an agreement reached yesterday between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), perchlorate in drinking water will be subject to federal regulation no later than December 17, 2019.

The agreement would require the EPA to propose a maximum contaminant level goal and a national public drinking water regulation for perchlorate within one year from today.

The agreement resolves the lawsuit that the NRDC brought against the EPA in February for missing deadlines to propose and issue a final drinking water standard, mandated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. An EPA attorney reportedly admitted in court that the agency had missed the deadline of February 11, 2013, to set limits on perchlorate in drinking water after announcing its intention to propose regulations two years prior. The NRDC said that the EPA was required to regulate perchlorate, which occurs naturally but is also used in the manufacturing of rocket fuel, explosives, road flares and fireworks.