



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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**DOH MOVES FORWARD ON RULES FOR CLEAN UP
OF ILLEGAL METH LABS**

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) has released interim procedures for the clean up and decontamination of illegal methamphetamine labs. The interim rules provide statewide procedures and establish standards for the clean up of contaminated properties that have been used to manufacture methamphetamine.

“We worked closely with law enforcement agencies and reviewed the best practices in other states to establish safe standards for Hawaii,” said Laurence Lau, deputy director for environmental health. “The Department of Health will oversee the implementation of the interim rules and ensure that property owners are aware of the proper steps they need to take to safely clean affected areas.”

The 2006 Legislature passed and Governor Linda Lingle signed Act 170 in response to concern over the potential health effects associated with residual methamphetamine left in the environment after the manufacturing process. The Act relates to the decontamination of illegal drug manufacturing sites and requires the DOH establish permanent rules for the clean up of these sites by the end of 2007.

For more information on the Interim Guidelines and Procedures for Decontamination and Cleanup of Illegal Clandestine Laboratory Methamphetamine Manufacturing Sites, call the Department of Health’s Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office at 586-4249 or log on the DOH website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/index.html>

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