

Guiding Principles for the NDWAC CCL Process Work Group
*Agreed to by the work group members present on February 6, 2003,
subject to review by members not present*

The NDWAC CCL WG agrees to be guided by the following principles.

- Public health is the first and foremost consideration. Development and maintenance of the CCL should, to the extent possible, maximize protection of public health. Full consideration should be given to sensitive subpopulations.
- The CCL process should be built on a foundation of science, and explicitly state and explain the rationale for adoption of assumptions and estimates when these are used in lieu of actual data.
- All aspects of the CCL process should be systematic and scientifically sound and should maximize transparency and reproducibility, while acknowledging that expert judgment also will be necessary; when expert judgment is used, it should be clearly identified.
- Ultimately, the CCL process should be described and documented to such an extent that a knowledgeable reader could understand the rationale for why a contaminant would be on or off the “universe,” PCCL, or CCL. Ultimately, it should be clear which decisions are based on expert judgment, science, policy considerations, or other considerations.
- The CCL process should apply equal rigor to chemical and microbial contaminants from a public health perspective.
- The CCL decision-making process must be open, accessible, and available to all informed stakeholders, including the interested general public as well as the professional and scientific community and all directly affected parties.
- Consistent with the authority under which the CCL Work Group was formed, the group encourages the opportunity for public involvement throughout the entire process. Broad participation that is representative of the range of affected and interested parties is to be encouraged, thereby incorporating public values, viewpoints, and principles into the process.