

Ministry of Environment Department

New developments on demands on micropollutant removal in wastewater treatment

CWPharma2 Virtual, 28. October 2021 Jóannes J. Gaard

Agenda

1. Political Focus on micropollutant

- I. PFOS
- II. Hospitals
- III. Greenhouse horticulture
- IV. Microplastics
- 2. Water Framework Directive
- 3. National Strategy on Hazardous Substances
- 4. Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive revision

Water Framework Directive

Good ecological and chemical status in 2027

- 85 percent of coastal water in bad chemical status
- 95 percent of coastal water in bad ecological status

- The volumen of groundwater bodies that are in poor condition due to pesticides and their degradation products has increased

- 70 percent of Lakes is in unknown condition
- 98 percent of Waterstreams is in unknown condition

National Strategy on Hazardous Substances

Knowledge

Surveillance

Source detection

Regulation

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive

Evaluation

 The UWWTD does not target micropollutants, including pharmaceuticals and personal care products residues.

- The impacts of additional treatment to remove micropollutants needs to be considered.

- Potential effects on concentrations and loads of micropollutants (including microplastics) in sewage sludge should also receive particular attention, specifically when they are used in agriculture.

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive - revision

Political options

| Policy option 1: EU soft guidance for local response | 2: Mix of policy responses Policy option | 3: Centralised responses setting EU requirements |
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| Commission to provide guidance regarding micropollutants removal and monitoring the presence of microplastics in waste water and sewage sludge; Member States to apply a riskbased approach to reduce micropollution; | Member States must ensure that treatment plants >100 000 p.e. or discharging to waters-at- risk have an advanced treatment stage for micropollutants meeting EU-level set standards. Operators of remaining treatment plants must monitor effluent toxicity and treat, if necessary | Member States must ensure that i) treatment plants >10 000 p.e. monitor and have an advanced treatment stage for micropollutants meeting EU-level set standards |
| Commission to provide guidance regarding Extended Producer Responsibility Member States are encouraged to decide whether to fund upgrades of treatment plants by EPR | Commission to establish rules for Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme for pharmaceutical to fund upgrades of treatment plants to remove micropollutants. Member States must regularly submit a national investment plan to the Commission if they benefit from EU funding and/or are noncompliant; | Commission to establish requirements for Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme for pharmaceutical and personal care products to fund upgrades of treatment plants to remove micropollutants Member States must regularly submit a national investment plan to the Commission |



Ministry of Environment of Denmark Department

Thank you for your attention!

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