would help guide development of prevention programs. Such data would assist in developing prevention programs tailored to local conditions and would enable local, State and federal agencies to more effectively target their activities to prevent pollution of drinking water. EPA Contact: Ben Smith, (202) 260–3026.

## Treatment Technology

EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss treatment technology on March 7, 1995, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20024. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) treatment technology is important in the establishment of National Primary Drinking Water Standards and determining when allowable flexibility in the form of variances and exemptions is appropriate. EPA is considering ways to improve treatment technology determinations and associated issues. The Agency will seek input on critical issues, including criteria for determining best available technologies and treatment technique requirements; ways for EPA to promote the development and applications of innovative technologies; and the need for toxicological evaluation and certification of treatment chemical and system component safety. EPA Contact: Steve Clark, (202) 260-7575.

# Health Assessment

EPA will hold a public meeting on health assessment on March 14, 1995, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street SW., Wahsington, D.C. 20024. Under this subject area, EPA is seeking stakeholder views on revisiting the methodology for determining Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) for drinking water, including the Agency's current policy of setting zero goals for carcinogens. In regulating drinking water contaminants which may cause adverse health effects, EPA sets non-enforceable MCLGs to protect against these effects, incorporating a margin of safety. EPA also sets a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), which is enforceable and may be less stringent than the MCLG depending on feasibility.

Several activities planned or ongoing may improve the characterization of the variability and uncertainty associated with the risk assessment for a contaminant. These include noncancer risk assessment methodologies such as the bench mark approach and categorical regression models, revision of the Cancer Risk Assessment Guidelines, revision of the relative source contribution policy, evaluation

of risk assessment methods for chemical mixtures and development of a risk characterization policy. EPA Contact: Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, (202) 260–7586.

# Analytical Methods

EPA will hold a public meeting on analytical methods in Cincinnati, Ohio. The schedule for this meeting may be obtained by calling Herb Brass at (513) 569–7936. This subject area encompasses the need to set priorities for enhancing the analytical methods approval process and laboratory certification program within the context of developing and implementing drinking water regulations. EPA is seeking stakeholders' suggestions for making improvements while assuring the comparability and quality of measurement data. Specific issues to be addressed include: streamlining the drinking water methods approval process, including the use of performance-based methods; approaches for standardizing the detection and quantification of contaminants in water: laboratory certification; opportunities for integrating methods across Agency water programs; and the relationship to methods organizations inside and outside of the Agency. EPA Contact: Herb Brass, (513) 569-7936.

#### Source Water Protection

EPA will hold a public meeting on source water protection on March 23, 1995, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024. This subject area is to address preparations for an **EPA-sponsored National Source Water** Protection Workshop in 1996 which will provide communities with tools and information to enable them to protect their sources of drinking water. The teleworkshop will be targeted to communities which have delineated their source water protection areas and carried out source identification and will assist such communities in moving to source management. EPA is seeking to work with States, communities, interest groups and business leaders, including from the agricultural community, to maximize participation in the teleworkshop.

This subject area will also address the development of source water protection approaches for communities which rely on surface water and the development of a new consumer information provision to inform ratepayers about local water quality and source water protection. EPA Contact: Bob Barles, (202) 260–7077.

Small Systems Capacity Building

EPA will hold a public meeting on small systems capacity building on March 29, 1995, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024. This subject area is to address options and priorities for building small system capacity, including the areas of management and operations, technology, and financing. EPA will be seeking suggestions on how best to focus and follow-up on current activities relative to voluntary State viability program development and small systems restructuring. EPA will also be seeking ideas and viewpoints on issues associated with technical assistance and training for small systems, as well as how best to identify and promote use of appropriate small systems technologies. Contact: Peter Shanaghan, (202) 260-5813.

# Focusing and Improving Implementation

EPA will hold a public meeting on focusing and improving implementation on March 6, 1995, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the St. James Hotel, 950 24th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. This subject area encompasses several topics, as follows. EPA is generally seeking stakeholder views on which of these or other implementation activities the Agency should undertake. Where the Agency plans to carry out a particular activity, as in reviewing the State Drinking Water Program Priorities Guidance, stakeholder views on appropriate approaches will be sought.

## Review of State Drinking Water Program Priorities Guidance

Recognizing the limited resources that States have to keep pace with expanding federal drinking water program requirements, EPA issued guidance in June 1992 to focus EPA and State resources on the highest priorities first and allow States time to build resources in order to fully implement the program. The priority scheme was to be effective between 1993 and 1998, during which time States are expected to aggressively develop adequate funding to oversee the entire Public Water Supply Supervision (PWSS) program. The guidance does not change or defer statutory or regulatory requirements for EPA, State agencies or public water systems. States have used the guidance successfully in addressing their most important implementation, enforcement and resource challenges. EPA believes that it is time to reexamine this guidance, based upon the experience gained over the past two years, and determine if any changes are