

Subject Health risk limits; groundwater

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Overview

The commissioner of health establishes health risk limits by rule for contaminants in groundwater, if monitoring results show the groundwater is being degraded. A health risk limit is defined as a concentration of one or more contaminants in groundwater that can be consumed with little or no risk to health. Health risk limits for groundwater are used for water monitoring and risk management. This bill modifies the types of quantitative estimates from which health risk limits for known or probable carcinogens in groundwater must be derived.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Procedure.
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	Amends § 103H.201, subd. 1. Modifies a provision authorizing the commissioner of health to adopt health risk limits for substances degrading groundwater. For toxicants that are known or probable carcinogens, requires the commissioner to use a quantitative estimate of a chemical's carcinogenic potency either: (1) published by the federal Environmental Protection Agency; or (2) determined by the commissioner to have undergone thorough scientific review. (Under current law the quantitative estimate must be both published by the EPA and determined by the commissioner to have undergone thorough scientific review.)
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