

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Department of Environmental Quality
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	9VAC25-280
VAC Chapter title(s)	Ground Water Standards
Action title	Periodic Review and Small Business Impact Review
Date this document prepared	September 19, 2022

Cost Benefit Analysis

Table 1a must be completed for all actions. Tables 1b and 1c must be completed for actions (or portions thereof) where the agency is exercising discretion, including those where some of the changes are mandated by state or federal law or regulation. Tables 1b and 1c are not needed if **all** changes are mandated, and the agency is not exercising any discretion. In that case, enter a statement to that effect.

- (1) Direct Costs & Benefits: Identify all specific, direct economic impacts (costs and/or benefits), anticipated to result from the regulatory change. (A direct impact is one that affects entities regulated by the agency and which directly results from the regulatory change itself, without any intervening steps or effects. For example, the direct impact of a regulatory fee change is the change in costs for these regulated entities.) When describing a particular economic impact, specify which new requirement or change in requirement creates the anticipated economic impact. Keep in mind that this is the proposed change versus the status quo. One bullet has been provided, add additional bullets as needed.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
 - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct costs described above.
 - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct benefits described above.
 - (c) Enter the present value of the direct costs based on the worksheet.
 - (d) Enter the present value of the direct benefits based on the worksheet.
- (3) Benefits-Costs Ratio: Calculate d divided by c OR enter it from the worksheet.
- (4) Net Benefit: Calculate d minus c OR enter it from the worksheet.
- (5) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Identify all specific, indirect economic impacts (costs and/or benefits), anticipated to result from the regulatory change. (An indirect impact is one that results from responses to the regulatory change, but which are not directly required by the regulation. Indirect impacts of a regulatory fee change on regulated entities could include a change in the prices they charge, changes in their operating procedures or employment levels, or decisions to enter or exit the regulated profession or market. Indirect impacts also include responses by other entities that have close economic ties to the regulated entities, such as suppliers or partners.) If there are no indirect costs or benefits, include a specific statement to that effect.

- (6) Information Sources: Describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why they are not.
- (7) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Table 1a: Costs and Benefits of the Proposed Changes (Primary Option)

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a periodic review. No changes are proposed at this time. <p>Direct Costs: None.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: None.</p>		
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount	Present Value	
Direct Costs	(a) 0	(c) 0	
Direct Benefits	(b) 0	(d) 0	
(3) Benefits-Costs Ratio	N/A	(4) Net Benefit	0
(5) Indirect Costs & Benefits	This is a periodic review. No changes are proposed at this time.		
(6) Information Sources	N/A		
(7) Optional			

Table 1b: Costs and Benefits under the Status Quo (No change to the regulation)

This table addresses current requirements and the implications of not making any changes. In other words, describe the costs and benefits of maintaining the current regulatory requirements as is.

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current regulation does not impose fees or any other specific, direct economic costs or benefits. <p>Direct Costs: None.</p>		
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	Direct Benefits: None.		
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount	Present Value	
Direct Costs	(a) 0	(c) 0	
Direct Benefits	(b) 0	(d) 0	
(3) Benefits-Costs Ratio	N/A	(4) Net Benefit	0
(5) Indirect Costs & Benefits	<p>No conclusive statements can be made about specific, indirect costs or benefits of this regulation. It does not impose specific requirements on regulated entities. This regulation generally requires the maintenance of “a soil zone or alternate protective measure or device sufficient to preserve and protect present and anticipated uses of ground water,” “in order to prevent the entry of pollutants into ground water occurring in any aquifer” (9VAC25-280-20). This regulation also prohibits, in certain circumstances, the “addition of [a] constituent to the naturally occurring concentration” (9VAC25-280-30). It does not impose specific testing requirements, but this regulation is cited by other regulations (e.g., 4VAC25-150, 12VAC5-613) that may require testing or treatment to meet the standards. In general, adherence to the standards may involve an indirect cost for entities that might otherwise pollute or degrade the groundwater. Conversely, the regulation’s primary, indirect benefit is the protection of protection of public health, safety, and welfare from groundwater degradation.</p>		
(6) Information Sources	N/A		
(7) Optional			

Table 1c: Costs and Benefits under an Alternative Approach

This table addresses an alternative approach to accomplishing the objectives with different requirements. These alternative approaches may include the use of reasonably available alternatives in lieu of regulation, or information disclosure requirements or performance standards instead of regulatory mandates.

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a periodic review. The Department considered the alternative of repealing the regulation but determined that the regulation is still needed to protect public safety, health, and
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	<p>welfare. The Department also considered the alternative of amending the regulation, but determined that no amendments are necessary at this time.</p> <p>Direct Costs: None.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: None.</p>		
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount	Present Value	
Direct Costs	(a) 0	(c) 0	
Direct Benefits	(b) 0	(d) 0	
(3) Benefits-Costs Ratio	N/A	(4) Net Benefit	0
(5) Indirect Costs & Benefits	None.		
(6) Information Sources	N/A		
(7) Optional			

Impact on Local Partners

- (1) Describe the direct costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) for local partners in terms of real monetary costs and FTEs. Local partners include local or tribal governments, school divisions, or other local or regional authorities, boards, or commissions. If local partners are not affected, include a specific statement to that effect and a brief explanation of the rationale.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
 - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct costs described above.
 - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of total (overall) direct benefits described above.
- (3) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Describe any indirect benefits and costs (as defined on page 1) for local partners that are associated with all significant changes. If there are no indirect costs or benefits, include a specific statement to that effect.

- (4) Information Sources: describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why they are not.
- (5) Assistance: Identify the amount and source of assistance provided for compliance in both funding and training or other technical implementation assistance.
- (6) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Note: If any of the above information was included in Table 1, use the same information here.

Table 2: Impact on Local Partners

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	None
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount
Direct Costs	(a) 0
Direct Benefits	(b) 0
(3) Indirect Costs & Benefits	None
(4) Information Sources	N/A
(5) Assistance	N/A
(6) Optional	

Economic Impacts on Families

- (1) Describe the direct costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) to a typical family of three (average family size in Virginia according to the U. S. Census) arising from any proposed regulatory changes that would affect the costs of food, energy, housing, transportation, healthcare, and education. If families are not affected, include a specific statement to that effect and a brief explanation of the rationale.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
 - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of direct costs.
 - (b) Enter estimated dollar value of direct benefits.

- (3) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Describe any indirect costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) to a typical family of three that are most likely to result from the proposed changes.
- (4) Information Sources: describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why not.
- (5) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Note: If any of the above information was included in Table 1, use the same information here.

Table 3: Impact on Families

Agency Note: This regulation generally benefits families by protecting groundwater from pollution and other degradation.

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	None. The regulation does not impose specific, direct costs or provide specific, direct benefits.
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount
Direct Costs	(a) 0
Direct Benefits	(b) 0
(3) Indirect Costs & Benefits	No conclusive statements can be made about specific, indirect costs or benefits of this regulation. However, families generally benefit from the protection of groundwater quality for current and future use of high quality groundwater.
(4) Information Sources	N/A
(5) Optional	

Impacts on Small Businesses

- (1) Describe the direct costs and benefits (as defined on page 1) for small businesses. For purposes of this analysis, “small business” means the same as that term is defined in § 2.2-4007.1. If small businesses are not affected, include a specific statement to that effect and a brief explanation of the rationale.
- (2) Quantitative Factors:
 - (a) Enter estimated dollar value of direct costs.

- (b) Enter estimated dollar value of direct benefits.
- (3) Indirect Costs & Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits and costs (as defined on page 1) for small businesses that are most likely to result from the proposed changes.
- (4) Alternatives: Add a qualitative discussion of any equally effective alternatives that would make the regulatory burden on small business more equitable compared to other affected business sectors, and how those alternatives were identified.
- (5) Information Sources: describe the sources of information used to determine the benefits and costs, including the source of the Quantitative Factors. If dollar amounts are not available, indicate why not.
- (6) Optional: Use this space to add any further information regarding the data provided in this table, including calculations, qualitative assessments, etc.

Note: If any of the above information was included in Table 1, use the same information here.

Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses

(1) Direct Costs & Benefits	None. The regulation does not impose specific, direct costs or provide specific, direct benefits.
(2) Quantitative Factors	Estimated Dollar Amount
Direct Costs	(a) 0
Direct Benefits	(b) 0
(3) Indirect Costs & Benefits	No conclusive statements can be made about specific, indirect costs or benefits of this regulation. It does not impose specific requirements on regulated entities. There is no reason to expect that indirect costs would burden small businesses more than other affected business sectors.
(4) Alternatives	N/A
(5) Information Sources	N/A
(6) Optional	

Changes to Number of Regulatory Requirements

For each individual VAC Chapter amended, repealed, or promulgated by this regulatory action, list (a) the initial requirement count, (b) the count of requirements that this regulatory package is adding, (c) the count of requirements that this regulatory package is reducing, (d) the net change

in the number of requirements. This count should be based upon the text as written when this stage was presented for executive branch review. Five rows have been provided, add or delete rows as needed.

Table 5: Total Number of Requirements

Agency Note: This is a periodic review, and no changes to the regulation are being proposed.

	Number of Requirements			
Chapter number	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Net Change
9VAC25-280	0	0	0	0