

SYNOPSIS**Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water,
Chapter 391-3-5**

The proposed amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5, would amend Rule 391-3-5-.39 to add a new public water system classification, Class IIIG.

Purpose: EPD proposes to amend Rule 391-3-5-.39(2) to add a new public water system classification, Class IIIG. The classification corresponds to a new drinking water operator license classification created by the Georgia Board of Examiners for Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator and Laboratory Analysts to relieve the shortage of drinking water operators for groundwater only systems.

Main Features: The proposed amendments include a new Class IIIG certification that would allow drinking water system operators to obtain a certification for groundwater treatment only, without also testing for surface water treatment under the current Class III certifications. The new certification would only apply to drinking water systems that serve a population of 1,000 to 9,999 and only have groundwater as their source of drinking water. If the drinking water treatment plant also uses surface water as a source of drinking water, operators must test on the previous Class III certification.

RULES FOR WATER QUALITY CONTROL, CHAPTER 391-3-5

391-3-5-.39, “Public Water System Classification” is being amended to add a new public water system classification in subparagraph (2).

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE**Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water,
Chapter 391-3-5**

The proposed amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5, will create a new public water system classification entitled Class IIIG, which will allow operators of groundwater drinking water systems with populations of 1,000- 9,999 to test and be certified to treat groundwater only. The certification course and exam for this classification has been created by the Georgia Board of Examiners for Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator and Laboratory Analysts. The new Classification will not be valid for systems which have a surface water treatment facility. Operators of public water systems that also utilize surface water must test on the previous Class III certification.