

User Guide to the Docket for the Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Program Plan 16

Docket Number: EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158
December 2024

This document provides information on how to reference and search the docket supporting the Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Program Plan 16 (Preliminary Plan 16). See the Federal Register Notice presenting the EPA's Preliminary Plan 16, [89 FR 102893](#) (December 18, 2024). Key supporting documents are also available on EPA's [Effluent Guidelines Program Planning webpage](#).

Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158 is the official docket for EPA's Preliminary Plan 16. The official docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in the Federal Register notices of these actions, any public comments received, and other related information. Although it is a part of the official docket, Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute is not included in the materials available to the public.

1. How can I access the docket?

The official public docket is the collection of electronic and hard copy materials. Users can access the electronic version of the public docket supporting Preliminary Plan 16 online at www.regulations.gov. All electronic and hard copy materials are made publicly available at the EPA Docket Center, (EPA/DC), located in the EPA Headquarters Library, WJC West Building, Room Number 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. For additional information on accessing documents available at the EPA Docket Center, go online to <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/epa-docket-center-reading-room>.

You can search, filter, and view the Regulations.gov web site for notices, proposed rules, final rules, supporting materials, and public comments corresponding to a specific docket. You can also export an index of the docket contents from the web site to search for specific record items.

Certain documents are not available in the electronic docket system. These documents include but are not limited to copyright-protected material, physical objects (e.g., maps), data included in MS Access databases (a format not currently supported by Regulations.gov), and information that has been claimed confidential. If certain documents are unavailable online, the document information at Regulations.gov will include instructions on how to access the information, as long as it has not been claimed confidential. For example, if you see "No documents available." under the "Content" section of selected file, click on "Show More Details". Text within the "Abstract" field will include instructions for viewing the docket such as "This media is not available in Regulations.gov. Contact the EPA Docket Center, Public Reading Room to view or receive a copy of this document."

2. Can I retrieve information that has been claimed Confidential Business Information?

No, you cannot retrieve information that has been claimed "Confidential Business Information" (CBI). CBI documents are not available for review by the public and are not filed at the EPA Docket Center.

3. How are documents organized in EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158?

Each document in the docket has two document identification numbers. One is the Regulations.gov Document ID (e.g., EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158-0098 is the Document ID number for the Preliminary Effluent Guidelines

Program Plan 16) that is assigned when EPA adds the document to the official docket. The last four digits are the unique Regulations.gov Document ID. The second is the document control number (DCN) that was assigned during the development of the document (e.g., DCN 11238). In documents prepared for the docket, EPA typically identifies references by their DCN. EPA included an index of Preliminary Plan 16 docket items, [EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0547-0100](#), that is organized by record section. The docket index includes the following fields for each docket item:

Field Name	Description
Record Section	Section number from the docket subject outline.
EPA Document ID	Unique document number assigned when the EPA added the document to the official docket. The Document ID Number includes the Docket Number followed by a unique document number to distinguish the individual documents within the docket (e.g., EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158-0098).
Title	Title of document.
Abstract	Additional description of document.
Document Type	Type of supporting and related materials (e.g., publication, meeting materials, data, etc.).
Author	Author of document (Last name, first full name).
Author Date	Date of publication, issue, edition, or version. Actual date of meeting or telephone call.
Source Citation	For copyright protected documents, this is a bibliographic citation (without title or author) that you can use to find the document in a library. For materials retrieved from the Internet, Source Citation lists the URL.
Page	Number of pages of the document.
CBI	Confidential Business Information (Yes/No). CBI is not available to the public.
Copyrighted	Materials that are copyright protected (e.g., books and other published material) (Yes/No). Copyrighted documents are not available through Regulations.gov; they are only available in hard copy at the EPA Docket Center.
DCN	Unique document control number (DCN) assigned during the development of the document.

4. What is the Docket EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158 Subject Outline?

The EPA has prepared a *subject outline* of the documents included in EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158 to help you locate documents that address related topics or subjects. With the exception of public submissions, each document in the docket has been assigned to an outline section. The subject outline for EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158 is provided below.

Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Program Plan 16 Docket Subject Outline Docket EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0158

1. Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Plan 16 and Annual Review
 - 1.1. General
 - 1.2. Annual Review and Rankings
 - 1.3. Preliminary Category Review Support
2. PFAS Reviews

5. Who can I contact for further information?

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