

Szatkiewicz, K. Revision of Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the Quality of Water Intended for Human Consumption in the Context of Risk Assessment/Risk Management Tools. *Ochrona Srodowiska* 2009, Vol. 31, No. 3, pp. 41–44.

Abstract: The goals and assumptions underlying the revision of Council Directive 98/83/EC are specified. The revision consists in verifying the scope of water quality testing and in analyzing the potential for the implementation of the risk assessment/risk management system. The World Health Organization has proposed that Water Safety Plans should be included into the Directive. These plans demand that the water supply process has to be monitored "from catchment to consumer". Within the framework of the risk assessment/risk management system it is necessary to identify the hazards and risks pertinent to the quality of the water source, as well as to the treatment and distribution of the water being taken in for human consumption. It has been emphasized that the implementation of the risk assessment/risk management system involves additional costs and amount of labor. In this context, particular consideration has to be given to small drinking water suppliers (with a number of users lower than 5,000) serving 16% of the EU population on average (according to EUREAU). Since in Poland the proportion of small water suppliers is high, it is desirable that they should participate in the consultations preceding the implementation of the Water Safety Plans. The deadline for the revised formulation of the Directive is the beginning of the year 2010. As a result, the Decree of the Polish Health Minister on the quality of the water supplied for human consumption will be changed accordingly.

Keywords: Council Directive 98/83/EC, waterworks, Water Safety Plans, drinking water quality.