January 31, 2006

TO: Environmental Health Managers
    District Health Directors
    Office of Environmental Health Services Staff

FROM: Donald J. Alexander, Director
       Division of Onsite Sewage & Water Services

SUBJECT: BORA-CARE® and Standoff to Wells

Background

Section 380 and Table 3.1 of the Private Well Regulations (12 VAC 5-630-10 et seq., the Regulations) establish the standoff distance between wells and sources of contamination. Section 380 A refers to “pesticide treated soils” as a potential source of contamination. Table 3.1 and Section 380 F require a minimum standoff of 50 feet between a termiticide-treated foundation and Class III and Class IV wells, with exceptions.

Since the Regulations were last amended in 1992, pesticides and their application have continuously evolved using different chemicals and processes. According to the manufacturer, BORA-CARE® is applied by brushing or spraying to the interior of the foundation. It is applied to the wood and other cellulose materials with a two to eight inch overspray onto the concrete or block foundation. It is not intended to be applied to the exterior foundation or to the soil. There is only 2-3 gallons applied for the average 2,000 square foot home.

Summary Statement

After a review of BORA-CARE® and the application procedures according to the manufacturer’s recommendations and labeled directions, its use as a termiticide would not constitute treatment of the soils or foundation with a pesticide as cited in the Regulations. Consequently, use of this product as a termiticide does not require a standoff to wells per Table 3.1. Attached is information from the manufacturer on BORA-CARE®. If you have questions, please contact Duke Price, Program Manager, at (804) 864-7460.

c: Mr. Lynn Williams, Nisus Corporation, Area Manager, Mid-Atlantic Region