Proposal Subject: Remote Status of Shellfish Growing Areas

Specific NSSP Section II Model Ordinance Definitions B. Definition of Terms **Guide Reference:** Section II Model Ordinance Chapter IV. @.03 A. (5) (e)

Text of Proposal/ Requested Action

Revise Section II, B. Definition of Terms.

(86) **Remote status** means a designation applied to <u>an approved</u> shellfish growing area that has no human habitation, <u>or has sparse human habitation</u> and is not impacted by any actual or potential pollution sources.

Revise Section II, Chapter IV@.03A.(5)

(e) Remote Status. A growing area may be placed in the remote status if:

(i) A<u>a</u> sanitary survey determines that the area has no human habitation, and is not impacted by any actual or potential pollution sources; and

(ii) Has no human habitation; or
(ii) Has sparse human habitation and other factors that provide protection equivalent to areas having no human habitation. Equivalent protection must be provided by factors such as overwhelming marine water dilution and dispersion between the potential pollution sources and the harvest area, human habitation that is well removed from the shoreline or aquaculture sites that are a significant distance (more than one mile) from the shoreline.

Public Health Significance:

Shellfish sanitation control authorities must use their limited resources to focus on sanitation issues that provide the greatest public health benefit. This proposed change to the remote status could eliminate unneeded marine water sampling in areas not threatened by pollution and allow limited resources to be redirected to more significant shellfish sanitation issues.

The proposal would expand the remote status designation only to sparsely populated areas that have additional factors that impart equivalent public health protection provided by areas where there is no human habitation. When an area is designated as remote, the only change in the sanitation requirements is the reduced frequency of water sampling. The frequency and thoroughness of shoreline surveys, sanitary survey reports, triennial or annual report updates remain unchanged.

Cost Information (if available):

No cost information is available.

Action by 2009 Task Force I Recommended no action on Proposal 09-100.

Rationale: Adequately addressed in Model Ordinance.

Action by 2009 General Assembly Adopted recommendation of 2009 Task Force I on Proposal 09-100.

Action by USFDA 02/16/2010

Concurred with Conference action on Proposal 09-100.