



# **EPA News You Can Use**

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April 12, 2024**

# Regulatory Agenda



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## ➤ LCR Revisions (LCRR)

Proposed November 13, 2019

Final June 2021

**Effective October 16, 2024 (inventory and PN for ALE)**

## ➤ LCR Improvements (LCRI)

Proposed December 6, 2023, *comment period has closed*

Final by October 2024

**Effective October 2027 with a few exceptions**

# Regulatory Agenda



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## ➤ CCR Rule Revisions

Proposed April 5, 2023

Final by March 15, 2024, but NRDC  
agreed to allow 60 days more, so

by May 14, 2024

Effective May 2025 ??

Let's talk about it the fall

# CCR Reminders

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- Must include information on detected contaminants including UCMR5 results; and when EPA has proposed an MCL
- May use CCRs to accomplish public notice for Tier 3 notices, including notice for availability of UCMR5 results
- Use to inform customers of SL inventory efforts
- Link to EPA's CCR webpage

# Regulatory Agenda



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## ➤ PFAS MCLs & HI

Proposed March 29, 2023

Final April 2024

Effective 5 years later, Spring 2029

Announced and pre-publication version on EPA webpage,

Will appear in *Federal Register* soon

# EPA's Final MCLs for PFAS NPDWR

| Chemical   | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) | Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| PFOA   | 0                                     | 4.0 ppt                         |
| PFOS   | 0                                     | 4.0 ppt                         |
| PFHxS  | 10 ppt                                | 10 ppt                          |
| HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals)                               | 10 ppt                                | 10 ppt                          |
| PFNA   | 10 ppt                                | 10 ppt                          |
| Mixture of two or more: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS | Hazard Index of 1                     | Hazard Index of 1               |

\*Compliance is determined by running annual averages at the sampling point

**Hazard Index** - used to evaluate potential health risks from exposure to chemical mixtures.



July 2023

## Q: How does the EPA's proposed PFAS rule affect required monitoring under PA DEP's PFAS MCL Rule?

A: Even once a final rulemaking is published in the Federal Register, state primacy agencies (including PA DEP) will have **2-4 years** to establish or revise state regulations as necessary, to ensure that state regulations are at least as stringent as Federal regulations. **In the meantime, the PA PFAS MCL Rule that was published in January 2023 remains in effect, including the MCLs, monitoring requirements, and all additional provisions.**

# Implementation: Timeframes for Water Systems

Within **three years** of rule promulgation (2024 – 2027):

- Initial monitoring must be complete

Starting **three years** following rule promulgation (2027 – 2029):

- Results of initial monitoring must be included in Consumer Confidence Reports (i.e., Annual Water Quality Report)
- Regular monitoring for compliance must begin, and results of compliance monitoring must be included in Consumer Confidence Reports
- Public notification for monitoring and testing violations

Starting **five years** following rule promulgation (starting 2029)

- Comply with all MCLs
- Public notification for MCL violations



# What changed from the Proposed Rule?



Examples of changes to the final rule based on comments:

- Compliance deadline for MCLs increased to 5 years instead of 3 years for systems to plan, fund, and construct capital improvements.
- Set individual MCLGs/MCLs for PFHxS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals) in addition to the mixture HI MCLG/MCL for PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS.
- Final HI MCL requires presence of two or more PFAS versus one or more.
- Additional flexibility to reduce ongoing monitoring from quarterly to annual or triennial based on results.

Come to  
Lancaster!

PA May 22  
workshop

# Cybersecurity!

Don't be fooled by emails!

pAs\$WOrldS

Don't get distracted when other things are happening

Obtain a *FREE* assessment from EPA and receive a cyber action plan; learn best practices



## Free Onsite Cybersecurity Assessment and Technical Assistance

Cybersecurity is a broad term that refers to the security of computer network infrastructure and data. A cyber attack is an attempt to undermine or compromise the function of a computer network or system, or an attempt to track the online movements of individuals without their permission.

### What is the onsite assessment and technical assistance?

With the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Horsley Witten Group (HWG) is offering free, confidential, onsite cybersecurity assessments and technical assistance to interested water and wastewater utilities. The assessment consists of a questionnaire completed on-site with HWG staff, and the technical assistance consists of developing a cyber action plan based on the results of your utility's assessment focused on best practices to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a cyber incident. Adoption of these practices can reduce the likelihood that a cyber attack will be successful and allow the utility to recover from any cyber attacks faster and at a lower cost.

### What are the expected outcomes?

All individual utility information gathered during the assessment will be protected and remain confidential. Trends in the anonymized, aggregated data will be shared with other utilities and agencies so that lessons learned from the assessments may benefit all.

Participating utilities can expect to receive a straightforward overview of their vulnerabilities and suggested best practices to reduce risks to their business enterprise, SCADA, and communications systems. Additionally, the utility will develop their cyber action plan with HWG and work to implement any recommended best practices.

### What does the utility need to prepare before the onsite assessment and technical assistance?

The assessment will require input from management, IT, operations/control staff and engineers as appropriate. The utility will also need to compile and provide any existing system documentation/diagrams, policies, and procedures.

### Is there any follow-up?

Yes, HWG will contact the utility on two separate occasions after the development of the cyber action plan to gauge progress and see if additional assistance is required.

To register your utility, please visit:

[https://horsleywitten.com/  
cybersecurityutilities](https://horsleywitten.com/cybersecurityutilities)

For more information, contact:

Gemma Kite at 508-833-6600

# EPA Tools and Resources

<https://www.epa.gov/water-resilience/epa-cybersecurity-water-sector>



**Water Security is National Security**



## FACT SHEET

### EPA's Cybersecurity Resources for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems

Improving cybersecurity across the water sector remains one of EPA's highest priorities. EPA continues to underscore that adopting cybersecurity best practices at drinking water and wastewater utilities is essential to protect communities from the increasing number and severity of cyber-threats facing our nation's water systems. The Agency will continue to explore opportunities to lower cybersecurity risk for public water systems.

EPA will continue to support states, technical assistance providers, drinking water and wastewater systems by providing ongoing technical assistance in the form of cybersecurity assessments, subject-matter expert consultations, training, and funding.

#### Cybersecurity Assessments

EPA conducts cybersecurity assessments for utilities through the [Cybersecurity Evaluation Program](#) where utilities work with a cybersecurity professional virtually to complete an assessment using the WCAT, described below. Following the assessment, utilities will receive their comprehensive Assessment Report and Risk Mitigation Plan Template so they can begin addressing their cybersecurity gaps and track their progress as they make improvements to their cybersecurity program.

EPA's [Water Cybersecurity Assessment Tool \(WCAT\)](#) helps water systems self-assess their cybersecurity practices. State Primacy Agencies and Technical Assistance Providers can also use this tool when conducting a cybersecurity assessment at water systems. The tool utilizes [EPA's Cybersecurity Checklist](#), which contains the basic cybersecurity controls needed to build a strong cybersecurity program.

#### Cybersecurity Technical Assistance

EPA offers direct technical assistance through the [Cybersecurity Technical Assistance Program for the Water Sector](#). Primacy agencies, technical assistance providers, and utilities can submit cybersecurity questions and receive one-on-one remote assistance (phone or email) from a cybersecurity subject-matter expert. EPA strives to respond to each request for technical assistance within two business days. Using EPA's [Cybersecurity Checklist Fact Sheets](#), for each of the 33 questions on the WCAT, utilities can learn additional details on each cybersecurity control including why it's important, recommendations, implementation tips (corrective actions), and additional resources utilities can access to assist in implementing each control.

#### Cybersecurity Training

EPA offers cybersecurity training and tabletop exercises free to the water sector. For example, [EPA's Cybersecurity 101 Webinar](#) introduces the basic principles of cybersecurity to Water Sector members. EPA has also conducted trainings on how to use the [WCAT](#) to conduct cybersecurity assessments at water and wastewater utilities for technical assistance providers and water systems. EPA also hosts webinars covering cybersecurity concepts and highlighting EPA's cybersecurity assessment resources for water systems supporting Defense drinking water and wastewater facilities.

Working in coordination with states, State-Level Rural Water Sections and Water/Wastewater Agency Response Networks (WARNs), EPA hosts tabletop exercises featuring scenarios that allow staff to assess their cyber response practices, identify ways to improve their cybersecurity posture, and engage with cybersecurity subject-matter experts.

# Prepare for Cyber Incidents

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- EPA Incident Action Checklist

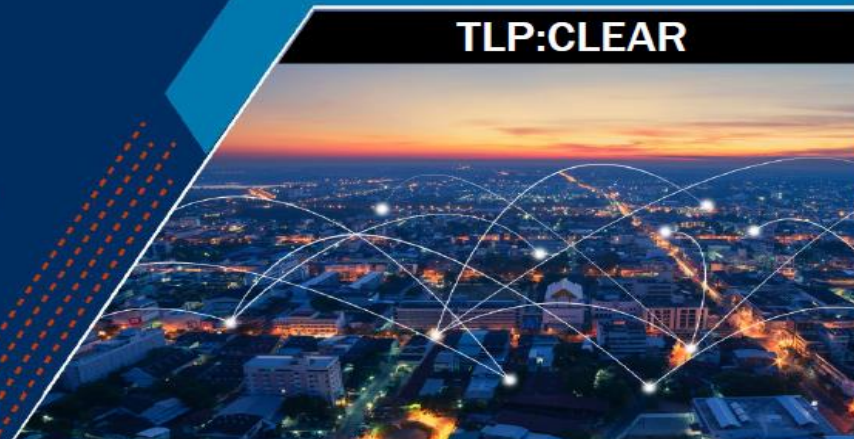
<https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/cybersecurity-planning#IAC>

- WaterISAC 12 Recommendations
- Actions Recommended by CISA
  - Practice Manual Operations!



# Top Cyber Actions for Securing Water Systems

TLP:CLEAR



1. **Reduce Exposure to the Public Facing Internet**
2. **Conduct Regular Cybersecurity Assessments**
3. **Change Default Passwords Immediately**
4. **Conduct an Inventory of OT/IT Assets**
5. **Develop/Exercise Incident Response/Recovery Plans**
6. **Backup OT/IT Systems**
7. **Reduce Exposure to Vulnerabilities**
8. **Conduct Cybersecurity Awareness Training**



# FREE CYBER VULNERABILITY SCANNING FOR WATER UTILITIES



## WATER SECTOR COORDINATING COUNCIL



Reach out:  
[vulnerability@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:vulnerability@cisa.dhs.gov)

# Response to Cyber Incidents

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Come to  
Lancaster!

- Switch to manual operations
- Test operations manually before you ever need to operate in this manner
- Come to AWWA conference, Lancaster, May 14-15
  - Will discuss in more depth with cyber consultant

# Report Cyber Incidents



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PA State Police

CISA at 888-282-0870 or email at  
Central@cisa.gov

CISA provides technical assets and assistance to  
mitigate vulnerabilities and reduce the impact of  
the incident

PADEP Needs to know

EPA - work through me



# Reminders--AWIA Deadlines are coming

| <b>CWS Size</b> | <b>R&amp;R Assessment Certification</b> | <b>ERP Certification</b> |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| $\geq 100,000$  | March 31, 2025                          | September 30, 2025       |
| 50,000 - 99,999 | December 31, 2025                       | June 30, 2026            |
| 3,301 - 49,999  | June 30, 2026                           | December 31, 2026        |

<https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/awia-section-2013>

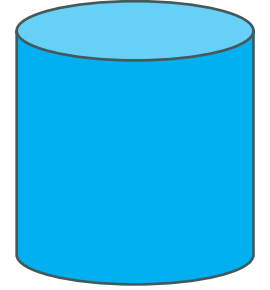
EPA interprets the population served to mean **all persons served** by the system directly or indirectly. As a result, community water systems should determine their population served based on the **number of people the system serves directly**, plus the **number of people served by any consecutive community water systems**. Accordingly, a community water system that provides drinking water to consecutive community water systems (i.e., a “**wholesaler**”) must include the population served by those consecutive systems when determining its total population served.



## Population Served

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# Reviewing your RRA and ERPs



Come to  
Lancaster!

- Each community water system shall review the assessment at least **once every 5 years** to determine whether such assessment should be revised
- Submit a certification that the system has **reviewed** its assessment and, if applicable, **revised** such assessment
- Shall prepare or **revise**, where necessary, an emergency response plan that incorporates findings of the assessment (and **any revisions** thereto)

# Reviewing and Updating your RRA and ERP

- Update your RRA and ERP to include emerging as well as ongoing threats
- EPA's website, [www.epa.gov/waterresilience](http://www.epa.gov/waterresilience), has resources on many threats of concern to water systems, including **cybersecurity**, supply chain resilience, climate change, and more



# New RRA & ERP Certification Forms

- ✓ Form Fillable
- ✓ Population Served
- ✓ PWSID# begin with PA
- ✓ Reviewed or Reviewed/Revised

## Certification of Community Water System Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) in Compliance with America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Section 2013<sup>1</sup>

### Part (A): Community Water System Identification

Community Water System Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Community Water System Complete Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Community Water System Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID)<sup>2</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Population Served<sup>3</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part (B): Certification Date

Date of the certification: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part (C): Certification Statement

I, \_\_\_\_\_

[Name of certifying official]

hereby certify that the community water system named under Part A, above, has [select all that apply]

conducted                      reviewed                      reviewed and revised

an assessment of the risks to, and resilience of, its system. This assessment included an assessment of:

1. The risk to the system from malevolent acts and natural hazards;
2. The resilience of the pipes and constructed conveyances, physical barriers, source water, water collection and intake, pretreatment, treatment, storage and distribution facilities, electronic, computer, or other automated systems (including the security of such systems) which are utilized by the system;
3. The monitoring practices of the system;
4. The financial infrastructure of the system;
5. The use, storage, or handling of various chemicals by the system; and
6. The operation and maintenance of the system.

Optionally, the assessment may include an evaluation of capital and operational needs for risk and resilience management for the system.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of certifying official - click to add a digital signature, or print and sign]

<sup>1</sup> Visit [www.epa.gov/waterresiliency/awia-section-2013](http://www.epa.gov/waterresiliency/awia-section-2013) for information on AWIA Section 2013 RRAs and upcoming certification deadlines.

<sup>2</sup> PWSIDs begin with a two-character primary agency abbreviation (your state, territory, or tribal nation abbreviation) followed by a seven-digit identification number. In the specific case of Utah, PWSIDs begin with "UTAH" followed by a five-digit identification number.

<sup>3</sup> When determining population served, wholesalers should account for the community or communities to which they sell or provide water.

# **Time for Your Questions & Thank You for having me today**

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