

Waterworks Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Sydnor Hydro, Inc.
2111 Magnolia St,
Richmond, VA 23223
10:00 am – 11:35 am

Acting Chair: Drew Hammond, Virginia Department of Health
Secretary: Cathy Hanchey, Virginia Department of Health
Timekeeper: Drew Hammond, Virginia Department of Health

Members Present:

David Raines, Virginia Association of Counties
Andy Crocker, Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc.
Dr. Ignatius Mutoti, Virginia Society of Professional Engineers
David Van Gelder, Water Operator Class I
Steven Herzog, Virginia Water Environment Association, Inc.
Craig Nicol, Department of Environmental Quality
Eric Lassalle, Nontransient Noncommunity Representative
Jesse Royall, Community Waterworks Owner
Dr. Greg Boardman, Faculty (via telephone)

Guests in Attendance:

Cathy Hanchey Virginia Department of Health
Robert Payne, Virginia Department of Health
Howard Eckstein, Virginia Department of Health
Trisha Henshaw, Department of Professional and Regulatory Development
Kristin Clay, Department of Professional and Regulatory Development
Greg Arrington, Sydnor Hydro, Inc.
Barry Matthews, Virginia Department of Health
Robert Bohannon, Hunton & Williams (Fairfax Water)
Mark Anderson

Minutes

Agenda Item: Call to Order

Discussion: Mr. Hammond convened the meeting at 10:03 a.m
Conclusions: With Mr. John Aulbach attending the quarterly Board of Health meeting and Mr. Elmer Handy out due to health reasons, it will be necessary to elect an Acting Chair.
Action items: Jesse Royall moved that Drew Hammond be nominated to serve as Acting Chair for this meeting. That motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Agenda Item: Agenda Adoption/Adoption of January 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Discussion: There was a motion to adopt the draft minutes as revised and the motion was seconded. There was no discussion. Draft agenda and minutes were adopted unanimously.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: **Ms. Hanchey to distribute January's minutes as approved.**

Agenda Item: Public Comment

Discussion: Mr. Mark Anderson stated that he was merely visiting.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: Chair's Report and Director's Report

Discussion:

Mr. Hammond provided the following updates:

- Introduced himself as the new Office of Drinking Water (ODW) Deputy Director and provided his background.
- Mr. Nate Mathis, an ODW State Revolving Fund Project Engineer, will be leaving ODW as of March 24, 2016 to take a job with Chesterfield County. ODW is moving forward with advertising the position on Virginia Jobs. Until the position is filled, Capacity Development will provide assistance to SRF.
- ODW is proceeding with updates to replace the position vacated due to Mr. Anderson's retirement, and ODW anticipates having this completed within the next 30 days.
- With the recent departure of a wage employee under Technical Services, ODW is seeking to elevate the GIS position to a FTE to provide continuous support for the Source Water Assessment and Protection Program.
- ODW briefed Secretary William Hazel on lead in drinking water on February 9, 2016. VDH also met briefly with Secretary Hazel on March 15, 2016. Dr. Marissa Levine, the State Health Commissioner was also providing a lead briefing to the Board of Health. ODW was also providing additional support concerning coal ash with DEQ Director David Paylor.
- Ms. Susan Douglas, ODW Technical Services, is providing weekly updates to lead and copper questions from the EPA.
- On February 29, 2016, EPA Headquarters sent a letter to Governor McAuliffe and to the State Health Commissioner advising of increased oversight of the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). The letter to the State Health Commissioner was read by Mr. Hammond.

Conclusion:

Mr. Hammond advised that the State Health Commissioner asked ODW to look at strengthening language in the Consumer Confidence Rule (CCR) templates. Mr. Herzog questioned when the CCR changes would be effective, and Mr. Hammond advised that it would not be for the CCR due this year. Mr. Herzog also suggested that ODW could incorporate non-detect language into the CCR template.

Action items:

Ms. Hanchey will distribute a copy of the EPA's LCR letter forwarded to the State Health Commissioner. ODW will also try to get a copy of the EPA's letter addressed to the Governor.

Agenda Item: Drinking Water Lead Testing

Discussion:

Mr. Hammond informed members of the following:

- On February 29, 2016, the EPA forwarded its "Clarification of Recommended Tap Sampling Procedures for Purposes of the Lead and Copper Rule," and the Memorandum has been forwarded to DCLS.

Conclusion:

Discussion centered around Pre-Stagnation Flushing, and "Suggested Directions for Homeowner Tap Sample Collection Procedures" indicates that the water line should not be intentionally flushed prior to sample collection. Clarification regarding what is meant by "excessive" was also requested. Clarification was also requested concerning what a waterworks should do for LCR samplings plans that are already approved, and what is VDH's expectation.

Action items:

None

Agenda Item: DPOR Update

- Discussion:* Ms. Clay reported the following to members:
- The WWWOSSP is adding new education options for applicants to include Associates degrees and experience exchanges. Public comment period closed with 105 comments, primarily addressing the onsite changes. The comments will be taken to the WWWOSSP Board at its April 21, 2016 meeting.
 - The WWWOSSP is considering reciprocity options, including the possibility of a national exam. The Exam Committee recommended adopting a national exam.
- Conclusion:* Additional discussion concerning consistency at testing centers occurred. Any complaints concerning testing centers should be addressed to Ms. Clay to be investigated and addressed. Mr. Anderson noted that the Exam Committee noted that a national exam would be a closed book exam and would require a major training effort. Additional discussion suggested that applicants be provided an idea of where material would be coming from. A Virginia-tailored exam was rejected due to the cost.
- Action items:* None

Agenda Item: RTCR Update

- Discussion:* Mr. Hammond reported the following to members at the request of Ms. Susan Douglas, VDH ODW Technical Services:
- VDH ODW presented 14 workshops on the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCRC) that were attended by 586 people. The RTCRC is effective as of April 1, 2016.
 - VDH ODW is updating SDWIS March 23-25, 2016.
 - VDH ODW anticipates forwarding the revised draft primacy application package to the EPA for review by March 18, 2016. Following the EPA's approval, we will be able to move through the adoption process.
- Conclusion:* One member noted that the rollout was not as timely as it could have been, and that training missed the Richmond area. Everyone knew it was coming, but then the dates seemed rushed. It seemed that those who wanted to attend had to travel a bit far out. Another member noted that his conversations with Rule Team members felt the delay was partially a result of VDH ODW decisions concerning optional provisions of the RTCRC.
- Action items:* **VDH ODW will make note of the issues and concerns for future rule adoptions.**

Agenda Item: Capacity Development Update

- Discussion:* Mr. Matthews informed members of the following items:
- The Capacity Development Division has hired a third Sustainability Coordinator. Misty Johnson, who previously worked for ODW as an Inspector, is returning February 10, 2016 and will work out of the Danville Field Office. A map outlining the service areas for each Sustainability Coordinator was provided to members.
 - Waterworks Business Operation Plans (WBOPs) have been a major theme and Cap Dev is trying to make them easier to follow. Nontransient Noncommunity WBOPs have been finalized, and Community WBOPs are almost finished. However, updated WBOP forms are not on the VDH ODW web site.
 - Mr. Anthony Hess is a contributing writer for Virginia Rural Water Association (VRWA), and the Cap Dev web site will have links for articles written by Cap Dev staff. Any research ideas or initiatives for

- future articles should be directed to Mr. Matthews.
- Cap Dev is revising and upgrading the Annual Capacity Development Report to the EPA to make it more user-friendly. The report is not published for the public; however, it will be shared on the Cap Dev web site in the near future.
- Cap Dev is also working to document success stories and case studies.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: **Cap Dev will make the new WBOP forms available on its web site once they are finalized.**

Agenda Item: Legal Affairs Update

Discussion: Mr. Payne provided the following updates:

- VDH ODW has recently seen an influx of small towns requiring enforcement intervention because of their limited of technical, managerial, and financial capabilities to operate a waterworks in compliance with the *Waterworks Regulations* and aging infrastructures. Legal Affairs has a graduated enforcement approach and will continue to work with the field offices and other ODW divisions to address these issues timely.
- VDH ODW will file a written application for an Inspection Warrant with the Appomattox Circuit Court to enable staff to inspect a mobile home park where the owner has been nonresponsive.
- Legal Affairs continues to develop a plan to compel owners, specifically Noncommunity waterworks owners, to comply with bacteriological and nitrate sampling requirements to protect public health.
- Advertisement for a legal person to staff Legal Affairs is ongoing to help handle the influx of Noncommunity waterworks.
- VDH ODW is also looking at Compliance / Enforcement staff in each field office to improve service to the regulated community.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: EPA Update

Discussion: Ms. Patti Kay Wisniewski, EPA Drinking Water Security Coordinator, provided the following information that was reported by Mr. Hammond:

- The EPA issued letters to the Governors and Primacy Agencies regarding lead in drinking water in February 2016. Sample letters are posted on the EPA's web site at: <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/epa-letter-governors-and-state-environment-and-public-health-commissioners>.
- The RTCR takes effect April 1, 2016.
- EPA has overhauled its web pages, with many of the older links not working or forwarding to the new pages.
- EPA is planning for National Drinking Water Week in May. A Water Utility Public Awareness Kit is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/communitywaterresilience/water-utility-public-awareness-kit>.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: DCLS Update

Discussion: No update.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: DEQ Update

Discussion: Mr. Nicol presented the following items:

- No legislative actions resulted from the 2016 General Assembly session impacted Office of Water Supply.
- Changes to the surface water withdrawal requirements will be presented to the State Water Control Board on April 1, 2016. Responses to comments received during the public comment period will be available five days prior to the meeting. There will be some changes. Based on public comments.
- A Fast-Track action that amends the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations to include requirements for submittal of well construction data to DEQ is continuing to move through executive review and was sent to the Governor’s Office on February 25, 2016.
- Water Supply Planners will be conducting outreach efforts for the rest of the year to discuss the 2018 water supply plan updates and items needed to meet compliance items identified in 2013 correspondence. Expressed thanks to VDH (specifically Mr. Bob Hicks) for its role in the Middle Peninsula PDC meeting.
- VDH and DEQ staff attended the Virginia Water Well Associates Winter Conference February 17-18, 2016, and conducted two training/information sessions. One was for environmental specialists (VDH employees), and one for the well drilling community. Additionally, VDH and DEQ staff is scheduled to meet with VWWA Board members at the end of April to prioritize the remaining changes that need to be made to the forms and online platform prior to July 1, 2016. The revisions may become public at some point in the future.
- VDH ODW and OWS staff is in the process of revising the VDH permit coordination procedures for Groundwater and Surface Water applications/permits that affect waterworks.
- The Eastern Virginia Ground Water Management Area Committee began meeting again. Work Group met March 10, 2016, and Workgroup 1 met March 10, 2016, and Workgroups 2A and 2B will be meeting March 25, 2016.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: DHCD Update

Discussion: No update.

Conclusion: Move to next item

Action items: None

Agenda Item: SE-RCAP Update

Discussion: Mr. Crocker reported the following items to the members:

- He will be the State Manager for Regional Programs due to Larry Wallace’s passing last fall.
- SE-RCAP requested a budget amendment during the 2016 General Assembly session, with Senator Carrico as the patron. SE-RCAP requested \$1.5 million (current budget is for \$1 million) to address a \$600,000 backlog of projects. The budget amendment was passed by the Senate; however, the House rejected the amendment.
- SE-RCAP participated in a Congressional fly-in to visit with the federal

- Appropriations committee members. All asked about Flint, Michigan.
- Mr. Crocker will be speaking at a community dinner in Altavista concerning issues for private well owners.
- SE-RCAP is partnering with Cap Dev on a grant to provide training for pump metering and a membrane filtration class for waterworks operators.
- The annual Water Is Life! Luncheon and Conference will be held in Roanoke on April 20, 2016.

Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: VT/Education Update

- Discussion:* Dr. Boardman reported the following:
- CPE Lectures: Dr. Mark Edwards, Virginia Tech, presented a CPE workshop on February 17, 2016 on Premise Plumbing and the Flint, Michigan situation; Dr. Paolo Scardina, Virginia Tech, presented a CPE workshop on Hydraulics, Part II. There will be a Part III. On April 20, 2016, Jared Linkous, PE, Pulaski County PSA, and Carlos Mantilla-Pena, a PhD student at Virginia Tech, will conduct a workshop on Meters and Meter Replacement.
 - Spring Short Courses offered through Virginia Tech are: Basic Groundwater at VT Richmond Center (February 8-10, 2016); Groundwater Math at The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center (March 14-16, 2016); Hands-on Training at Salem Water Plant (April 28-29, 2016); and Operation and Maintenance of Distribution Systems at Virginia Beach Public Utilities (May 2-6, 2016). Classes filled very quickly for the O&M course. It can accommodate 18 students at a time.
 - During summer 2016, a Focus Group will meet to discuss development of a Water 4 Short Course for the Annual VT Short School for Operators, projected to take place during summer 2017.

Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: VRWA Update

Discussion: No update.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: VA-AWWA Update

Discussion: No update.
Conclusion: Move to next item
Action items: None

Agenda Item: New Business

- Discussion:*
- Mr. Howard Eckstein, VDH ODW, noted that the State Revolving Fund program would receive \$13.7 million from the EPA, a reduction of 5.4% from the previous year. Deadline for filing construction application is April 1, 2016. A change is that a PER will no longer be required with the application. Options in the project (schedule a PEC with the field office) may require a PER later.
 - Mr. Hammond mentioned that HJ88 designating June 30, 2016 as Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals Appreciation Day was passed during the General Assembly.

Conclusion: In response to concerns that no longer requiring a PER would compromise an SRF award, Mr. Matthews noted that there was a trend toward design-build projects.

Action items: None

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Discussion: Meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Conclusion: None

Action items: None

Cathy M. Hanchey,
Secretary

John Aulbach
Chair

DRAFT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

FEB 29 2016

OFFICE OF WATER

Commissioner Marissa Levine
Virginia Department of Health
109 Governor Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Commissioner Levine:

There is no higher priority for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency than protecting public health and ensuring the safety of our nation's drinking water. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), Virginia and other states have the primary responsibility for the implementation and enforcement of drinking water regulations, while the EPA is tasked with oversight of state efforts. Recent events in Flint, Michigan, and other U.S. cities, have led to important discussions about the safety of our nation's drinking water supplies. I am writing today to ask you to join in taking action to strengthen our safe drinking water programs, consistent with our shared recognition of the critical importance of safe drinking water for the health of all Americans.

First, with most states having primacy under SDWA, we need to work together to ensure that states are taking action to demonstrate that the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) is being properly implemented. To this end, the EPA's Office of Water is increasing oversight of state programs to identify and address any deficiencies in current implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule. EPA staff are meeting with every state drinking water program across the country to ensure that states are taking appropriate actions to address lead action level exceedances, including optimizing corrosion control, providing effective public health communication and outreach to residents on steps to reduce exposures to lead, and removing lead service lines where required by the LCR. I ask you to join us in giving these efforts the highest priority.

Second, to assure the public of our shared commitment to addressing lead risks, I ask for your leadership in taking near-term actions to assure the public that we are doing everything we can to work together to address risks from lead in drinking water. Specifically, I urge you to take near-term action in the following areas:

- (1) Confirm that the state's protocols and procedures for implementing the LCR are fully consistent with the LCR and applicable EPA guidance;
- (2) Use relevant EPA guidance on LCR sampling protocols and procedures for optimizing corrosion control;
- (3) Post on your agency's public website all state LCR sampling protocols and guidance for identification of Tier 1 sites (at which LCR sampling is required to be conducted);
- (4) Work with public water systems – with a priority emphasis on large systems – to increase transparency in implementation of the LCR by posting on their public website and/or on your agency's website:

- the materials inventory that systems were required to complete under the LCR, including the locations of lead service lines, together with any more updated inventory or map of lead service lines and lead plumbing in the system; and
 - LCR compliance sampling results collected by the system, as well as justifications for invalidation of LCR samples; and
- (5) Enhance efforts to ensure that residents promptly receive lead sampling results from their homes, together with clear information on lead risks and how to abate them, and that the general public receives prompt information on high lead levels in drinking water systems.

These actions are essential to restoring public confidence in our shared work to ensure safe drinking water for the American people. I ask you for your leadership and partnership in this effort and request that you respond in writing, within the next 30 days, to provide information on your activities in these areas.

To support state efforts to properly implement the LCR, the EPA will be providing information to assist states in understanding steps needed to ensure optimal corrosion control treatment and on appropriate sampling techniques. I am attaching to this letter a memorandum from the EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water summarizing EPA recommendations on sampling techniques. We will also be conducting training for state and public water systems staff to ensure that all water systems understand how to carry out the requirements of the LCR properly. Finally, we are working to revise and strengthen the LCR, but those revisions will take time to propose and finalize; our current expectation is that proposed revisions will be issued in 2017. The actions outlined above are not a substitute for needed revisions to the rule, but we can and should work together to take immediate steps to strengthen implementation of the existing rule.

While we have an immediate focus on lead in drinking water, we recognize that protection of the nation's drinking water involves both legacy and emerging contaminants, and a much broader set of scientific, technical and resource challenges as well as opportunities. This is a shared responsibility involving state, tribal, local and federal governments, system owners and operators, consumers and other stakeholders. Accordingly, in the coming weeks and months, we will be working with states and other stakeholders to identify strategies and actions to improve the safety and sustainability of our drinking water systems, including:

- ensuring adequate and sustained investment in, and attention to, regulatory oversight at all levels of government;
- using information technology to enhance transparency and accountability with regard to reporting and public availability of drinking water compliance data;
- leveraging funding sources to finance maintenance, upgrading and replacement of aging infrastructure, especially for poor and overburdened communities; and
- identifying technology and infrastructure to address both existing and emerging contaminants.

As always, the EPA appreciates your leadership and engagement as a partner in our efforts to protect public health and the environment. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or your staff may contact Peter Grevatt, Director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water at grevatt.peter@epa.gov or (202) 564-8954.

Thank you in advance for your support to ensure that we are fulfilling our joint responsibility for the protection of public health and to restore public confidence in our shared work to ensure safe drinking water for the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Beauvais". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joel" being more prominent and the last name "Beauvais" following in a similar style.

Joel Beauvais
Deputy Assistant Administrator

Enclosure



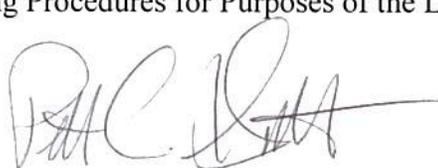
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

FEB 29 2016

OFFICE OF
WATER

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Clarification of Recommended Tap Sampling Procedures for Purposes of the Lead and Copper Rule

FROM: Peter C. Grevatt, Director
Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water 

TO: Water Division Directors
Regions I - X

The Lead and Copper Rule, 40 C.F.R. Sections 141.80 to 141.91, requires monitoring at consumer taps to identify levels of lead in drinking water that may result from corrosion of lead-bearing components in a public water system's distribution system or in household plumbing. These samples help assess the need for, or the effectiveness of, corrosion control treatment. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide recommendations on how public water systems should address the removal and cleaning of aerators, pre-stagnation flushing, and bottle configuration for the purpose of Lead and Copper Rule sampling.

Removal and Cleaning of Aerators

EPA issued a memorandum on *Management of Aerators during Collection of Tap Samples to Comply with the Lead and Copper Rule* on October 20, 2006. This memorandum stated that EPA recommends that homeowners regularly clean their aerators to remove particulate matter as a general practice, but states that public water systems should not recommend the removal or cleaning of aerators prior to or during the collection of tap samples gathered for purposes of the Lead and Copper Rule. EPA continues to recommend this approach. The removal or cleaning of aerators during collection of tap samples could mask the added contribution of lead at the tap, which may potentially lead to the public water system not taking additional actions needed to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. EPA's recommendation about the removal and cleaning of aerators during sample collection applies only to monitoring for lead and copper conducted pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 141.86.

Pre-Stagnation Flushing

EPA is aware that some sampling instructions provided to residents include recommendations to flush the tap for a specified period of time prior to starting the minimum 6-hour stagnation time required for samples collected under the Lead and Copper Rule. This practice is called pre-stagnation flushing. Pre-stagnation flushing may potentially lower the lead levels as compared to when it is not practiced.

Flushing removes water that may have been in contact with the lead service line for extended periods, which is when lead typically leaches into drinking water. Therefore, EPA recommends that sampling instructions not contain a pre-stagnation flushing step.

Bottle Configuration

EPA recommends that wide-mouth bottles be used to collect Lead and Copper compliance samples. It has become apparent that wide-mouth bottles offer advantages over narrow-necked bottles because wide-mouth bottles allow for a higher flow rate during sample collection which is more representative of the flow that a consumer may use to fill up a glass of water. In addition, a higher flow rate can result in greater release of particulate and colloidal lead and therefore is more conservative in terms of identifying lead concentrations.

Conclusion

EPA is providing these recommendations for collection of Lead and Copper Rule tap samples to better reflect the state of knowledge about the fate and transport of lead in distribution systems. The three areas discussed above may potentially lead to samples that erroneously reflect lower levels of lead concentrations. The recommendations in this memorandum are also consistent with the recommendations provided by the EPA's Flint Task Force. For more information about the Task Force please view EPA's website at: <http://www.epa.gov/flint>.

To provide further information on this topic, EPA included an amended "Suggested Directions for Homeowner Tap Sample Collection Procedures" in Appendix D of the 2010 revision of *Lead and Copper Rule Monitoring and Reporting Guidance for Public Water Systems* (EPA 816-R-10-004). This document can be found at:

<http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P100DP2P.txt>

Please share these recommendations with your state drinking water program directors. If you have any questions, please contact Anita Thompkins at thompkins.anita@epa.gov.

Attachment

cc: James Taft, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators

Suggested Directions for Homeowner Tap Sample Collection Procedures

Revised Version: February 2016

These samples are being collected to determine the lead and copper levels in your tap water. This sampling effort is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and your State under the Lead and Copper Rule, and is being accomplished through a collaboration between the public water system and their consumers (e.g. residents).

Collect samples from a tap that has not been used for at least 6 hours. To ensure the water has not been used for at least 6 hours, the best time to collect samples is either early in the morning or in the evening upon returning from work. Be sure to use a kitchen or bathroom cold water tap that has been used for drinking water consumption in the past few weeks. The collection procedure is described below.

1. Prior arrangements will be made with you, the customer, to coordinate the sample collection. Dates will be set for sample kit delivery and pick-up by water system staff.
2. There must be a minimum of 6 hours during which there is no water used from the tap where the sample will be collected and any taps adjacent or close to that tap. Either early mornings or evenings upon returning home are the best sampling times to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist. Do not intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6 hour period.
3. Use a kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet for sampling. If you have water softeners on your kitchen taps, collect your sample from the bathroom tap that is not attached to a water softener, or a point of use filter, if possible. Do not remove the aerator prior to sampling. Place the opened sample bottle below the faucet and open the cold water tap as you would do to fill a glass of water. Fill the sample bottle to the line marked "1000-mL" and turn off the water.
4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place in the sample kit provided. Please review the sample kit label at this time to ensure that all information contained on the label is correct.
5. If any plumbing repairs or replacement has been done in the home since the previous sampling event, note this information on the label as provided. Also if your sample was collected from a tap with a water softener, note this as well.
6. Place the sample kit in the same location the kit was delivered to so that water system staff may pick up the sample kit.
7. Results from this monitoring effort and information about lead will be provided to you as soon as practical but no later than 30 days after the system learns of the tap monitoring results. However, if excessive lead and/or copper levels are found, immediate notification will be provided (usually 1-2 working days after the system learns of the tap monitoring results).

Call _____ at _____ if you have any questions regarding these instructions.

TO BE COMPLETED BY RESIDENT			
Water was last used:	Time _____	Date _____	
Sample was collected:	Time _____	Date _____	
Sample Location & faucet (e.g. Bathroom sink): _____			
I have read the above directions and have taken a tap sample in accordance with these directions.			
Signature _____		Date _____	



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SAMPLE LETTER

FEB 29 2016

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Governor:

There is no higher priority for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) than protecting public health and ensuring the safety of our nation's drinking water. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), «State» and most other states have the primary responsibility for the implementation and enforcement of drinking water regulations, while EPA is tasked with oversight of state efforts. Recent events in Flint, Michigan and other U.S. cities, have led to important discussions about the safety of our nation's drinking water supplies, which is why I am writing to you today.

I am asking you to join me in taking action to strengthen protection of our nation's drinking water, which is a shared responsibility involving state, tribal, local and federal governments, system owners and operators, consumers and other stakeholders. We must work together to address the broad set of challenges and opportunities we face – including in the areas of infrastructure finance and investment, science, technology, legacy and emerging contaminants, regulatory oversight, risk assessment and public engagement and education.

As part of the EPA's immediate effort to properly oversee state implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule, my staff will be meeting with every state drinking water program across the country to ensure that states are taking appropriate actions to identify and address lead action level exceedances and fully implementing and enforcing this important rule. I ask that you encourage your state agency to give this effort the highest priority, consistent with our shared commitment and partnership to address lead risks.

In the near-term, I also ask for your leadership in taking action to enhance public transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule to assure the public that all levels of government are working together to address lead risks. By separate letter, the EPA's Office of Water has written to the head of your state primacy agency detailing our requests and recommendations. In that letter we urge enhanced efforts to provide the public with better and quicker information on risks associated with lead in drinking water and how to abate them. We also ask states to promptly inform residents of lead sample results from their homes, as well as the general public where systems are experiencing high lead levels. And we point out the tremendous value of using public websites to disclose state lead sampling protocols and guidance, lead sampling results, and water system inventories of lead service lines. This is the most effective approach to assure the public that we are doing everything we can to work together to address lead risk, and I would ask your support to take these steps quickly.

In the coming weeks and months, we will be working with states and other stakeholders to identify strategies and actions to improve the safety and sustainability of our drinking water systems, including:

- ensuring adequate and sustained investment in, and attention to, regulatory oversight at all levels of government;
- using information technology to enhance transparency and accountability with regard to reporting and public availability of drinking water compliance data;
- leveraging additional funding sources to finance maintenance, upgrading and replacement of aging infrastructure, especially for poor and overburdened communities; and
- identifying technology and infrastructure to address both existing and emerging contaminants.

Thank you in advance for your support to ensure that we are fulfilling our joint responsibility for the protection of public health and to restore public confidence in our shared work to ensure safe drinking water for the American people. Please do not hesitate to contact me, and your staff can always contact Mark Rupp, Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Relations, at rupp.mark@epa.gov or (202) 564-7178.

As always, the EPA appreciates your leadership and engagement as a partner in our efforts to protect public health and the environment.

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy