

Lead in Drinking Water Workgroup Meeting - Minutes

July 9, 2025 10:00 am EST

Zoom virtual meeting

Recording of meeting:

[Meeting Recording Link](#)

Workgroup Member Attendance:

Elizabeth Dowling, KY DOW

Doug Kimbler, BGMU

Emily Fritz, LWC

Brad Montgomery, American Engineers, Inc. (AEI)

Maggie Neal, RCAP

William Davis, Carrollton Utilities

Absent Workgroup Members:

Greg Heitzman, Blue Water Kentucky

Justin Sensabaugh, KY American Water

Sarah Gaddis, KY DOW

Mary Carol Wagner, NKWD

Jacob Northington, PWW

Jennifer Burt, KDE

Other Attendees:

Arianna Lageman

Randall Kelley

Kevin Stewart

Tim Tucker

Trina Miller

Liam Niemeyer

Scott Young

Pete Conrad

John Brady

Cortni Edwards

Kay Sanborn

Sara Sgantas

John Conway

Shelby Guenther

Emily Fritz

Lori Dials

Amber Vaughn

Russell Neal

JD Sloan

Chris Bobay

Franklin Hall

Jory Becker

Mike Asalon

Ameerah Palacios

Richard Harrison

Will Willis

Abbey Osborne

Jordan Basham

Todd Ritter

Daniel Prater

Kayla Chasteen

The minutes from the April 9, 2024 meeting were approved by Brad Montgomery, seconded by Maggie Neal.

Subgroup Open Discussion Period:

Service Line Inventories:

- This subgroup did not meet in the past quarter; however, DOW presented a new template that tracks data for the baseline service line, annual inventory updates, consumer communications,

and replacement planning. DOW will provide a draft version to the workgroup for review and comment.

Service Line Replacements and Funding:

- This meeting met April 16 and discussed funding related to GRR SLs.
- Realized the need for some one-page guidance docs for replacement and funding.
- Need to update Funding Fact Sheet.
 - Update: DOW is updating this sheet; has a few resources supplied by RCAP. Contact Andy Dezarn with new information/resources: andy.dezarn@ky.gov.
- How are changes at federal level going to impact EPA's ability to update their funding guidance documents? And other changes? (Still to be determined).
- Templates so far? DOW is working on a few checklists, and the new SL Inventory and Replacement template (in draft form) will also address some of the replacement plan requirements
 - DOW will provide the current drafts for comment/review
 - Suggestion to look to other states for ideas/resources
- Will KY require other info on replacement plan apart from rule requirements?
 - Unlikely, but will make suggestions on ideas to manage a replacement program.
- For information, contact JD Sloan at jsloan@louisvillewater.com

Communications and Public Outreach:

- Last meeting discussed how to improve compliance with the 'potential lead SL' annual letter and certification requirements. (About 20% of water systems waited until the last moment to submit the certification document; DOW will be assessing how many missed the compliance deadline of July 1 and/or failed to send the letters out within 30 days of completing the inventory, and begin issuing 'monitoring and reporting' violations soon).
- Also discussed need for guidance on POU devices and how to respond after a disturbance of a LSL; DOW is drafting a guidance document now.
- AWWA and KRWA are reaching out to water systems to collect stories of successes and best practices for customer engagement.
- Please send suggestions and comments to Eileen.Miller@ky.gov

Corrosion Control Treatment:

- Subgroup is putting together a list of resources they want to make available to systems:
 - Guidance docs
 - Action flowcharts
 - Lessons learned – have not been very successful in receiving input from others for this
 - Timeline – DOW has a draft, which will be shared with the workgroup
- Louisville Water is considering hosting a workshop for pipe-loop study or other CCT topics; reaching out to Greater Cincinnati Water and others.
 - Subgroup would like ideas and engagement to put this together
 - Contact Brad Montgomery: brad.montgomery@stvinc.com

Tap Sampling, School and Childcare Program:

- Met July 8, 2025; still have a diverse group from health department, child care regulatory agencies, water systems, etc.

- Created a flow chart for school/childcare sampling, which will be used to create guidance document(s)
- School/childcare sampling – discussed communicating the results with the local and state health departments; initiating conversations early on will be helpful
- Voluntary Lead Testing in Schools program (with DOW WIIN Grant): remediation funds nearly available; over 180 facilities now signed up.
- Tap sampling priority action items:
 - Site sampling plan template: DOW has finished it and made it available online: [Site Sample Plan Update](#)
 - Tap sampling requirements guidance doc is in draft form and was presented – will be shared with workgroup for review/comment
- Subgroup had good attendance from a wide variety of stakeholders representing education, public health, small systems, etc.
- Questions on how water systems who decide to use new protocol will be determined to be in compliance. We were not able to answer all the questions, but will follow up. There are a few water systems that are using the new sampling protocol and LCRI Standard Monitoring requirements at this time.

SRF Project Updates:

- KIA has released the SFY2026 Draft IUP, and it is open for comments until July 16, 2025. There are 7 projects tentatively approved to be funded with the IIJA Lead Allocation funding.
- KIA has not received the FY2026 IIJA Lead Allocation funding amount from the EPA yet. EPA is waiting until they receive data on Initial Service Line Inventories (ISLI) from all states, which they requested to have uploaded into the SDWIS Fed database by June 30. The funding amount each state will receive will be adjusted based on the ISLI.
- KIA still has approximately \$30 million in the IIJA Lead Allocation Fund that hasn't been spent from prior years, so water systems are encouraged to continue applying into the next cycle (beginning in October, 2025).

EPA Updates:

- EPA lost approximately 25% of their staff (agency-wide) in the past few months due to federal cuts and a voluntary early retirement/layoff program, so there may be delays in response as they reorganize.
- EPA HQ has indicated they are working on a guidance document for alternative ways to identify whether galvanized service lines are GRR, but with staff cuts and reorganization it's not certain.
- DOW has sent a proposal to EPA R4 for alternative methods to determine if galvanized SLs can be classified as non-lead.

General Comments/Discussion:

Division of Water has created a Teams page for members of the subgroups and committee members. This is intended to be a place to collaborate on documents, share materials and examples.

By the end of July, DOW expects to start working with water systems that have inventories with only non-lead and GRR SLs to determine if they can reclassify their GRRs to non-lead using alternative methods.

DOW will be sending out a packet of draft templates and guidance documents to water systems for review and comment.

Contact Elizabeth.Dowling@ky.gov to be added to the Lead in Drinking Water workgroup invite list or any of the subgroups, or to be added to the Division of Water email list for “Drinking Water Wednesday”. This is a weekly newsletter with updates, guidance, tips, and more from Division of Water on different drinking water topics.

Next meeting: **October 29, 2025 at 10:00 am EST**. It will be a hybrid meeting (in-person at 300 Sower in Frankfort and virtual via Zoom).