

Lead in Drinking Water Workgroup meeting

November 18, 2025

Minutes

Meeting recording: https://ky-gov-cot.zoom.us/rec/share/t0Wvl2rOO-H_QljZXmJSIfT9VPEDpNSmSINJHa7CN3l8KQsuzkuCNJC6zXzws2H5.8z2vXPIJxgnujb2D

Recording Passcode: drsf#E4r

Workgroup attendees:

Greg Heitzman
Jennifer Burt
Doug Kimbler
Brad Montgomery
Doug Kimbler
Maggie Mahan-Neal
Alicia Jacobs

Absent workgroup members:

Jacob Northington
Justin Sensabaugh
William Davis

Other attendees:

Andy Dezarn	JD Sloan
Ethan Givan	Chandler Marks
Joe Pavoni	John Moor
Christy Twyman	Donna McNeil
Scott Neighbors	Taylor Rosenhagen
Scott Yost	Kay Sanborn
Tim Tucker	Amber Vaughn
Pete Conrad	Mike Asalon
Arianna Lageman	Lindsey Rehtin
Amber Agee	Emily Fritz
Richard Harrison	Sara Sgantas
Steven Cole	Jacob Russell

Minutes approval: Doug Kimbler (first), Brad Montgomery (second)

Workgroup changes:

Alicia Jacobs from Kentucky American Water will be acting as interim co-chair during Mary Carol Wagner's absence.

Sarah Gaddis has stepped down from the workgroup, and Greg Heitzman decided to step down during the meeting. Looking for two new workgroup members who will represent stakeholder groups that are not as well represented. Suggestions were a member of one of the Area Development Districts (ADD) and American Water Works Association (AWWA). Russell Neal will reach out to some ADD contacts, and Kay Sanborn will reach out to AWWA membership for volunteers.

Maggie Mahan-Neal and Kayla Chasteen will co-lead the service line inventory subgroup.

Subgroup report-outs:

Service Line Inventory subgroup (Maggie Mahan-Neal reporting):

- DOW has new Excel template for utilities with fewer than 20,000 connections. The version online is for utilities with 10,000 or fewer connections; the larger version can be made available upon request. Larger utilities should reach out to DOW to discuss whether/how the template can be useful for them. GIS formats of the SL inventory are also encouraged. The template is expanded to include sections for both the baseline inventory and annual inventory updates. In addition, it has areas for reporting on annual SL replacement requirements and tracking the required replacement rate. [Inventory and Replacement Template](#)
- New statistical method guidance (updated for LCRI) – utilities must have DOW approval prior to implementation. [SL Inventory Statistical Guidance - LCRI](#)
- Reach out to DOW (Eileen Miller, Eileen.miller@ky.gov) for information about GRR reclassifications; DOW has a procedure that could be followed to help reclassify GRRs to non-lead in many cases.

Service Line Replacements and Funding (JD Sloan reporting):

- This subgroup hasn't met recently, but will meet before the end of the year
- DOW funding fact sheet has been updated with most current deadlines; no new sources of funding have been added. [Fact Sheet - Drinking Water System Funding](#)
- Having an ADD water management coordinator would be a good addition to this workgroup because they work with grants and are more familiar with smaller, regional grants

- Finding funding outside the SRF is challenging because these projects aren't typical and don't match the criteria of many funds, and working with private property/homeowners adds a layer of complexity

School/Childcare and Tap Sampling (Emily Fritz reporting):

- Met last week
- Discussed first draft of a guidance document for PWS, a one-page summary for stakeholders, and a timeline for PWS/stakeholders
- DOW working on a data management system that will hopefully also have a public viewer to show school/childcare test results. Will begin development this summer
- WIIN Grant: [Voluntary Lead Testing in Schools and Childcares Program](#). DOW now has implemented lead mitigation into program, for schools/childcares that have positive lead test results. There is no match requirement for that funding (grant pays 100% of mitigation cost). Elementary schools and childcares built before 2014 are eligible for testing and mitigation.
- Tap sampling: there is a document online now for water systems that want to submit the tap sampling plan early: [Site Sample Plan Update](#). New tap (site) sample plans are due from all water systems by 12/31/2027. Water systems that are scheduled to do routine lead and copper monitoring in the next two years (2026 and 2027) are welcome to begin implementing LCRI protocol early; reach out to Elizabeth Dowling (Elizabeth.dowling@ky.gov) or anyone at DOW-DWB for more information. DOW is also developing guidance docs for collecting samples with new protocols.

Communications and Public Education (Andy Dezarn reporting):

- Reminder that deadline for annual SL material customer notifications are due to be mailed to consumers by 12/31/25. These are required for any water system with unknown, lead, or galvanized requiring replacement (GRR) service lines currently in their inventory. These can be modified from last year so consumers know this isn't newer information than what was sent last year.
- Check Your Pipes KY online materials have been updated for LCRI: [Check Your Pipes KY](#)

Corrosion Control Treatment (Brad Montgomery reporting):

- Haven't had a full subgroup meeting in last quarter, but workgroup has been busy coordinating new workshop
- Workshop – Corrosion Control Considerations for LCRI: December 9, 8:00-4:00 ET at Louisville Water Company, 3018 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, KY. There will be experts providing training about corrosion control and water quality considerations per

LCRI, and utilities presenting case studies from their utility, and a demonstration of LWC's pipe loop rig. There will also be free lunch and breakfast, and 6 CEUs are available. The workshop is free.



- Non-lead systems are also encouraged to attend workshop. DOW reported that during the past two monitoring cycles (the past 6 years), up to 5% of water systems had 90th percentile results that were approaching 10 ppb, indicating that they could have action level exceedances starting in 2028 (even systems that have no lead service lines). Systems with an action level exceedance would be required to undertake additional steps for water quality monitoring and/or corrosion control treatment.
- LCRI CCT graphic timeline developed by DOW.

DWSRF Update (Russell Neal reporting):

- Still waiting for the amount of the cap grant from EPA (IIJA lead allocation amount).
- One more year of funding from IIJA still remains
 - After that year, funding for lead projects will remain; however, the principle forgiveness amount may no longer be available
- No lead projects have been submitted yet under current call for projects, which ends December 16. ADDs may have an earlier date.
- Service line inventory projects are still eligible for IIJA funding, and private-side SLs are also eligible to be funded with those funds
- If questions, reach out to Russ: RussellS.Neal@ky.gov.

Compliance update (Elizabeth Dowling and Ethan Givan reporting):

- No new information from EPA
- DOW applying for full primacy of LCRI. Still need to update state regulation before this can happen
- Compliance with customer letter requirement (for customers with lead or potentially lead SLs): 9 violations issued to those that did not send customer letters. Letters of warning issued to utilities with more minor issues.
- What should systems do if they have completed inventory since the initial inventory deadline (10/16/24) and no longer have any lead, GRR, or unknown SLs?
 - Do not need to mail letters out to any customers

- For now, send an email to DOW notifying them of the change
- No need to send DOW an updated inventory until closer to 11/1/27
- DOW will update the customer notification certification document so there is a place where utilities can indicate/certify they are no longer required to send those notifications out

Public Comment period:

- AWWA new guidance documents:
 - CCT guidance has been developed; will be available soon. If it is free to the public, DOW will post a link on our website.
 - SL Replacement Plan guidance under development
- EPA has developed a guidance about GRRs, but hasn't been signed off yet for release to public.
- Suggestion that LiDW Workgroup work together to have a session at the next KY/TN Water Professionals Conference. Options explored include a round-table panel, a subject-matter time block, or a workshop.
 - Elizabeth will reach out to the technical program chair, RJ Sherman at KY American Water, as well as the heads of each subgroup to coordinate
 - Anyone wanting to participate/present, please reach out to Elizabeth for information
 - Abstract deadline is January 16, 2026