Lead in Drinking Water Workgroup Meeting

June 7, 2021 2:00 pm
GoTo Meeting

Workgroup Member Attendance:
Alicia Jacobs, Kentucky Division of Water (DOW), Chair
Amy Stoffer, NKWH/KY-TN AWWA, Chair
Greg Heitzman, Bluewater Kentucky
Jennifer Burt, Kentucky Department of Public Health (DPH)
Emily Fritz, Louisville Water Co.
Mike Gardner, Bowling Green Municipal Utilities
Sarah Gaddis, DOW
Brad Montgomery, CDM Smith
Obe Cox, Carroll County Water District
Justin Sensabaugh, Kentucky American Water Company

Absent Workgroup Members:
Bill Robertson, Paducah Water Works
Rengao Song
Tom Rockaway, University of Louisville
Ron Lovan, Northern Kentucky Water

Other Attendees:
David Billings, Frankfort Plant Board
Pete Goodmann, Louisville Water
Autumn Young, Louisville Water
Chris Bobay, Louisville Water
Joe Burns, KRWA
Carole Catalfo, DOW
Amber Agee, DPH
Sheryl Chino, HDR Inc.
Jacob Northington, Paducah Water Works
Spencer Bruce, Louisville Water
Maggie Mahan, KCAP
Julia Harrod, DOW
Barry Mayfield, EEC
Todd Ritter, KRWA
Gabe Tanner, DOW
Kim Greenidge, EEC

1. **Call to order:** The meeting of the Kentucky Lead in Drinking Water Workgroup was started at 2:00 pm by co-chair Amy Stoffer. The Agenda for the meeting and the Minutes of the May 24, 2021 meeting were presented and approved. A roll call of members was conducted.

2. **Introductions:** No new attendees were noted.

3. **Minutes:** The minutes from the last meeting on May 24, 2021 were approved by Greg Heitzman and seconded by Brad Montgomery. There were no comments or modifications requested.

4. **Organizational Structure:** A. Jacobs introduced discussion of dividing whole group into subgroups by subject area, for ease of discussion.
   - *Short-term committee to update old rules:* A. Jacobs will lead; requested others interested in helping out to contact her
   - *Corrosion control/source water:* Doug Kimbler, Brad Montgomery, Gabe Tanner, Rengao Song (possibly)
   - *Funding/Financing:* Jordan Basham (lead), Sheryl Chino, Greg Heitzman, Ron Lovan (possibly), Brad Montgomery
   - *Public education/Notification/Reporting:* Julia Harrod, Jacob Northington
5. **Discussion:** Subgroups will get more focused/busy after the LCRR is official. At this time, each group should get familiar with current sections of LCRR related to their subgroup topic. Discussion about June 30 deadline for EPA request for comments on LCRR. KWWA Utility Council is drafting a letter to comment on extension dates. Any other thoughts on LCRR that should be included in KWWA letter?

**A. Stoffer thoughts:**

- Can partners provide input on guidance manuals?
- Request that EPA provide public education training materials, in multiple languages.
- How should water systems prioritize LSL replacement; prefer guidance from EPA for consistency
- Filter pitchers: request that EPA provide list of approved devices
- Corrosion control: what is impact on customers that are sensitive to changes in water chemicals, if CCT methods/treatments change regularly?
- Funding: how will all changes be funded?

**Other considerations discussed:**

- Replacement of privately-owned portion of LSL – how to consider, fund, etc. Those portions of the line are out of water system’s purview, normally, but may require replacement
- Maintaining a treatment technique/technology (TT) rather than moving to an MCL standard; several agree they would prefer to continue with a TT and not move to MCL
- Small systems – some thoughts on whether all systems should be treated the same / have same standards, or provide concessions for smaller systems. Environmental justice considerations mentioned. Most seemed to agree that standards related to maintaining water quality should be the same regardless of system size, but allow small systems with fewer resources more time or more assistance in meeting the requirements
- Language in rule – consider omitting the word ‘exacerbate’ from mandatory language sent in public education materials. Provide some flexibility in the mandatory language required when sending public education/public notices.
- Find and fix: Need to review rule regarding level of flexibility/rigidity on this topic. Comments during meeting related to: adjusting water quality parameters/corrosivity in distribution system is not straightforward, and identifying the material of all pipes in distribution system is also challenging. How much authority does state have in setting parameters? Kentucky plumbing code states using lead in service lines and other plumbing was illegal after 1986; does this mean no pipes known to be installed after that date need to be examined?
- EPA gaps: are there any areas EPA is still looking for information on related to LCRR? DOW can ask, but EPA has not been very informative on issues/concerns with the rule revision.
• Schools and childcare centers: will EPA be providing risk communication tools, suggested language to use if lead is found in schools, etc.? Members should review 3Ts if haven’t already. Water systems will need to spend a lot of time getting schools to volunteer, coordinating school testing, etc. How will abandoned schools (and other properties) be handled? Water systems required to test all school facilities, but how to test abandoned ones? Child care facilities are harder to monitor; they should be a registered facility, but are not always, or don’t always maintain up-to-date registration information.

• LDW Workgroup goals: what is the over-arching goal of the whole workgroup and the subgroups? This is something that we should discuss as a group.

• Lists of Water System Concerns: a request was made for water systems to compile a list of concerns water systems have with LCRR that could be shared with DOW to consider and/or share with EPA. No firm commitment or deadline set, but mutual agreement that it was a good idea. Suggestion of creating an electronic survey to collect data and compile it. This will be discussed further in the next meeting.

6. **Next meeting:** July 12 (original proposal); changed to November 8, 2021.