
Water

New England Environmental Finance Center
(NEEFC)

2018

AWIA Fact Sheet

New England Environmental Finance Center

Maine Centers for Disease Control, Drinking Water Program

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Recommended Citation

New England Environmental Finance Center and Maine Centers for Disease Control, Drinking Water Program, "AWIA Fact Sheet" (2018). *Water*. 8.

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America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Section 2013

Under **AWIA**, community water systems (CWS) serving more than 3,300 people must develop or update their Risk and Resiliency Assessments and their Emergency Response Plans (ERPs). The new law adopted in October, 2018 amends the Safe Drinking Water Act and specifies what the assessments must address and establishes deadlines to file certifications to EPA. Assessments are required to be updated every 5 years, and certification of the reviews must be sent to EPA.

WHAT DO UTILITIES HAVE TO DO?

For now, nothing! EPA will provide detailed information on submittal procedures by Aug 1, 2019, including baseline threat information, risk assessment and ERP tools, and instructional webinars. For now, keep in mind that the following 3 requirements must be met as soon as March, 2020.

1. Develop or update Risk and Resilience Assessments:

Assessments should cover:

- Malevolent acts and resiliency to natural hazards
- Monitoring practices including security and cybersecurity monitoring
- Critical assets (equipment, materials, supplies, people, records)
- Financial infrastructure (not financial health but rather the IT system used for fiscal records)
- Prioritization of threats

2. Develop or update Emergency Response Plans (ERP):

 ERP templates are available from DWP at bit.ly/ERPplan

- Procedures, processes, and equipment used
- List of alternative water source, new intakes and flood protection barriers

3. Certify Compliance with EPA:

 Risk Assessment certification due dates:

- March 31, 2020 - Population of less than 100,000
- December 31, 2020 - Population of 50,000 to 99,999
- June 30, 2021 - Population of 3,301 to 49, 999

Coordinate With Partners: EPA recommends coordinating with federal, state, and local partners such as Maine WARN bit.ly/MEWARN



A more detailed description of the law can be found on the EPA Water Resilience website bit.ly/epaRisk

Read more about this Act at Congressional Research Service bit.ly/reportAWIA

Watch this helpful video from American Water Works Association bit.ly/AWWARisk

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