



January 9, 2026

Environmental Quality Board
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477
RegComments@pa.gov

RE: **WUC Comments on Proposed Rulemaking – #7-589 (IRRC #3472) Safe Drinking Water Revised Consumer Confidence Report Rule**

Dear Chair Shirley:

The Pennsylvania-Section, American Water Works Association (PA-AWWA) consists of 1,600 + members representing all classes of water utilities in Pennsylvania, including those PUC regulated, authorities, and municipalities, plus regulators, vendors, contractors, engineers, and others dedicated to promoting the health and welfare of Pennsylvania by providing affordable drinking water of superior quality and sufficient quantity. The Water Utility Council of PA-AWWA (WUC) includes representatives from the National Association of Water Companies, Pennsylvania Chapter; Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association; Pennsylvania Rural Water Association; and Water Works Operators' Association of Pennsylvania.

The WUC appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on ***Proposed Rulemaking – #7-589 (IRRC #3472) Safe Drinking Water Revised Consumer Confidence Report Rule***.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) proposes to amend Chapter 109 (relating to safe drinking water) to establish updated requirements for Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) for community water systems (CWSs) and for public notification (PN) as required by the revised CCR National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR).

Other amendments in the proposed rulemaking are needed to: incorporate PN and CCR provisions when the lead action level is exceeded as revised under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) NPDWR; clarify and ensure monitoring requirements are consistent for bulk water haulers and for entry points of systems that purchase water; and require Tier 3 PN for failure to report results of total coliform and E. coli monitoring, consistent with the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) NPDWR.

CCR: The proposed rulemaking would improve the readability, clarity, and understandability of CCRs. The proposed amendments would also improve the accuracy of the information presented, improve risk communication in CCRs, incorporate electronic delivery options, provide supplemental information regarding lead levels and control efforts, and require systems who serve 10,000 or more persons to provide the report to customers biannually (twice per year).

These revisions will make CCRs easier for consumers of drinking water provided by PWSs in Pennsylvania to access and understand, so that they are better equipped to make decisions about their health and any risks associated with their drinking water.

LCRR: The proposed rulemaking will incorporate PN and CCR provisions revised under the LCRR NPDWR.

The draft proposed rulemaking was presented to the Public Water System Technical Assistance Center (PWS-TAC) Board on February 20, 2025.¹ The PWS-TAC Board recommended proposed § 109.701(a)(4)(ii) be modified to replace “learns” with “becomes aware.” This change was not made in the proposed rulemaking because: the text as presented to the PWS-TAC Board matches the language in the LCRR NPDWR; the DEP believes the requested change does not change the meaning of § 109.701(a)(4)(ii); and the phrase “learns of” is currently used repeatedly throughout Chapter 109. ***The WUC accepts the DEP’s rationale for not making this revision and supports the existing language.***

With respect to § 109.416 (CCR Requirements) (x) (C):

”(C) Systems required to comply with clause (B) with a violation or action level exceedance that occurred between January 1 and June 30 of the current year, or have received monitoring results from required monitoring under 40 CFR 141.40 (*relating to monitoring requirements for unregulated contaminants*), must include a 6-month update with the second report including the following:”

The WUC is concerned that reporting of UCMRs, in accordance with the federal rule, is going to create confusion for the customers and unrealistic expectations by the customers. There is no regulatory requirement to “treat” UCMRs as they are unregulated. Additionally, the WUC questions how the DEP will track UCMRs as they are not reported through DWELR and the laboratories utilized for UCMR analysis don’t have to be Pennsylvania accredited.

Finally, the WUC would like the DEP to adopt the most flexible definition and interpretation of contaminant section vs. contaminant table (new language vs. old), which could allow for a more interactive display (Ex. <https://xd.adobe.com/view/a6b19545-8c1c-47c2-a824-5f945d8f7363-f3e2/screen/0c41eedc-649e-4606-81bb-2e6ac414ee26/?fullscreen> (scroll down and mouse over the example contaminants)) instead of an excel data table. This would expand readability, comprehension and better engage the public than the data tables currently used by the industry.

The WUC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this proposed rulemaking.

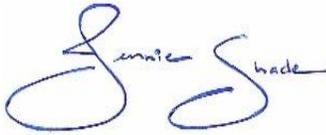
Respectfully submitted,



Ben Reichley
PA-AWWA



Larry Finnicum
NAWC-PA



Jennie Shade
PMAA



Matthew Walborn
WVOAP



Joseph Falcone
PRWA



Pat Caulfield
WUC Chairman

ⁱ Public Water System Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Board, Draft Minutes - February 20, 2025 Meeting
https://files.dep.state.pa.us/PublicParticipation/Advisory%20Committees/AdvCommPortalFiles/TAC/2025/May-29/DRAFT_Meeting_Minutes_Feb-20-2025.pdf