# Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
# Federal Fiscal Year 2018
# State Fiscal Year 2019
# Proposed
# New Jersey
# Set-Aside Work Plans

June 2019

## Background:

Under the 1996 Amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) (PL 104-182), Congress established the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to provide affordable financing to water systems to help fund necessary drinking water infrastructure improvement projects.

Congress also allowed states to "set-aside" a portion of their DWSRF Capitalization Grant each year. The SDWA allows states to use these set-aside funds to support water system capacity, operator certification, source water protection, and training and technical assistance to public water systems. States have the discretion to take up to approximately 31 percent of their capitalization grant for set-asides and can use these funds to hire state staff or to contract with third party technical experts.

## DWSRF Set-Asides:

The four types of SDWA set-asides include:

1. Administration and Technical Assistance (the greater of 4 percent, $400,000, or 1/5th percent of the current valuation of the fund);
2. Small System Technical Assistance (2 percent);
3. State Program Management (10 percent); and
4. Local Assistance and Other State Programs (15 percent)

The New Jersey bas budgeted 16% of the FFY2018 Capitalization Grant for set-asides. The FFY2018 Set-Aside Work Plans are for Small System Technical Assistance (1 percent) and State Program Management (10 percent). A workplan for the Administrative and Technical Set-Aside (1/5th percent of the current valuation of the fund) is not included as it is not required by USEPA.

## New Jersey FFY2018 Capitalization Grant $18,957,000

For the following work plans, USEPA Strategic Goal 2 applies:

**Strategic Plan Goal 2:**
Protecting America's Waters

**Strategic Plan Objective 2.1**
Protect human health by reducing exposure to contaminants in drinking water (including protecting source waters), in fish and shellfish, and in recreational waters

**SMALL SYSTEM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(1%, 1 FTE[1])**

## Background

The Small System Technical Assistance Program (SSTA) assists small water systems, defined as public water systems serving 10,000 or fewer persons [Section 1452(g)(2)(D) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)] that need to acquire and maintain compliance with the SDWA requirements. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will continue to utilize staffing resources to implement SSTA activities. Contracted services to address some SSTA activities are limited as detailed below.

In SFY2019 the NJDEP will continue to use the SSTA set-aside funds to provide group training sessions for owners and operators of small water systems through contract with the New Jersey Water Association (NJWA). The work period for the most recent contract is April 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019. The contract has the same terms as the previous agreement: 1) seventy (70) fee-for-service training sessions at a cost of $2,300 each, for a total of $161,000, and 2) sessions held equally in Northern, Central, and Southern regions. The only change in SFY2019 is the work contract duration from two (2) years to one (1) year nine (9) months due to a three (3) month No-Cost Time Extension Contract.

## Small System Technical Assistance

The SSTA Program is being implemented by staff from two (2) Bureaus within the NJDEP's Division of Water Supply and Geoscience (Division).

The **Bureau of Safe Drinking Water** (BSDW) will perform program activities and oversee the contracts described below to fulfill the following primary responsibilities:

- Training for Operators of Small Water Systems: The BSDW continues to contract with the NJWA to provide group training sessions to owners and operators of small water systems in the Northern, Central and Southern regions of New Jersey (see above). Training topics focus on many of the issues encountered by small water systems: basic accounting, consumer outreach, distribution planning, and SDWA requirements, with other topics freely substituted based on feedback from the attendees. The sessions are well received and well attended by licensed operators, who receive training contact hours required for their license renewal.

- Engineering Services Contract: The BSDW approved a $400,000 Engineering Services Contract on March 14, 2014 (three-year contract) with NJWA. The NJDEP will continue to administer the contract to assist participating systems in SFY2019. Under the agreement, small water systems serving less than 3,300 customers may obtain the services of a NJDEP-approved consulting engineer to assist in assessing their water

[1] Full-time equivalent, or full-time staff person.

system needs and provide assistance with completing Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) applications and submittals. The scope of work includes: 1) development of a preliminary asset management assessment, including engineer's recommendations for needed improvements with low-cost alternatives; and 2) engineering services for small water systems applying to the DWSRF loan program, such as preparation of planning and design documents and loan applications. A new Engineering Services contract is currently under review.

- The BSDW issues Certifications of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality (certification) to child care centers (those that serve drinking water to the public as a non-community or a non-public water system) upon their demonstration of compliance with the drinking water program requirements, as set forth in State amendments to the "Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers" (N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3). A certification must be issued by BSDW before a child care center can receive its three (3) year license from the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Approximately one hundred (100) certifications are issued each year. BSDW also provides additional assistance to child care centers seeking guidance to resolve compliance issues prior to obtaining a certification.

**Goals**

The following items will be addressed during SFY2019:

1. Provide oversight for the Engineering Services Contract which provides funding to cover the engineering and design costs incurred by small public water systems serving less than 3,300 persons who apply for a DWSRF Loan.

2. Oversight of the contract with NJWA to provide for seventy (70) group training sessions to owners and operators of small public water systems. Sessions will be held in Northern, Central, and Southern areas of the State. This contract will continue services through December 31, 2019.

3. Continue to issue approximately 100 certifications to child care centers.

The **Bureau of Water System Engineering** (BWSE) will perform the following program activities and fulfill the following primary responsibilities:

- Assist public water systems with achieving and maintaining compliance through a continuing cooperative effort with the Division of Water and Land Use Enforcement, Water Compliance and Enforcement (Enforcement) and County Environmental Health Act Certified Agencies (CEHAs). The criteria for performing site visits under the SSTA have been prioritized as follows:

    - Systems with unresolved or persistent acute violations that have triggered a Level 2 assessment under the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR), or with detections of chronic contaminants (two nonconsecutive within a twelve-month period) under the Ground Water Rule (GWR) or Nitrate Rule in the following order:

public community water system (CWS), non-transient non-community water system (NTNC) serving as schools, child care centers, other NTNC, transient non-community water systems (TNC).

- Public water systems that have failed to meet one or more Lead Action Level Exceedance (ALE) requirements; and therefore, have incurred or will incur a treatment technique violation(s) in the following order CWS, NTNC schools and child care centers, or other NTNC;

- Public water systems with Treatment Technique Violations in the following order CWS, NTNC schools, child care centers, other NTNC, TNC;

- Public water systems appearing on USEPA's ETT report with 11 or more points or child care centers/schools (required to be addressed) with unresolved violations for two or more consecutive quarterly reports;

- Public water systems with nonacute MCL violations or copper ALEs that are approaching compliance deadlines for corrective actions, in the following order CWS, NTNC schools and child care centers, other NTNC, TNC:

- Public water systems with Significant Deficiencies that are identified during Sanitary Surveys in the following order CWS, NTNC schools and child care centers, other NTNC, TNC:

Site visits may document a review of the following:

  - Public water system infrastructure (source, treatment, storage, and distribution processes);
  - Public water system operation and maintenance procedures;
  - Compliance monitoring schedule, sampling plans and techniques;
  - Guidance for selecting appropriate treatment technologies to address specific water quality concerns.

- In addition, the BWSE has developed a Special Projects Unit to provide technical and engineering support for compliance related activities, including further evaluation of remedial measures/corrective action reports and providing onsite assistance. The Special Projects Unit will also be participating in sanitary surveys with the CEHAs, USEPA and other Enforcement inspectors to assist in the inspections, identify possible issues with treatment and provide technical guidance as needed. The Special Project Unit anticipates attending approximately 25 sanitary surveys in the upcoming year, primarily focusing on small public water systems that serve sensitive populations (i.e. hospitals, medical facilities, schools).

## Goals

The following items will be addressed during SFY2019:

1. Perform approximately 30 small water systems technical assistance site visits per year and addressing follow-up activities.

2. Coordinate with Enforcement and CEHAs to assist public water systems with achieving and maintaining compliance. Continue to meet regularly and provide training as necessary. Attend 25 sanitary surveys.

3. Assist public water systems with addressing residents' water quality concerns through oversight of water system's investigations including sample collection and analysis.

4. Assist water systems with sampling plans if deficiencies are identified during site visits.

**STATE PROGRAM MANAGMENT**
**Source Water Protection Administration**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(1%, 0.5 FTE)**

## Background

The 1996 Amendments to the SDWA require states to conduct source water assessments on all public water system sources. NJDEP issued source water assessments for community water systems in December 2004 and for non-community water systems in May/June 2005. The results of the source water assessments are used to build upon existing strategies for protection of source waters including revision of State regulations and supporting local well head protection ordinances (Section 1452 (g)(2)(4)).

## Goals

The following items will be addressed during SFY2019:

1. Assess the following public community and non-community water system wells is an ongoing activity:
    - Approximately 25 new community water supply wells and approximately 60 non-community water supply wells are placed in service each year. The NJDEP will continue to delineate all new community water system wells;
    - The status of some wells has changed since the Source Water Assessment Program inventory was comprised in June 2003. For example, a well may no longer be in use or the well use (permanent, emergency, and seasonal) may have changed. In some instances, NJDEP staff was notified by water systems of such changes. In other instances, well status changes are determined by staff either because of routine compliance inspections or by inventory comparison efforts. The NJDEP will continue to update the inventory of community and non-community water system wells;
    - Wells that were re-delineated because of finding additional well attribute data or identifying inaccuracies with the original delineation. NJDEP had to perform some of the assessments using depth and pump capacity assumptions. NJDEP continues to revisit some of these assumptions and correct as feasible; and
    - Wells not delineated in the original source water assessments as a result of not having the necessary well information.

2. Perform the following ongoing tasks:

    - Create a list of public water system wells that fall within one or more of the above categories;
    - Gather well attribute data and obtain GPS locations for the wells identified on that list, and manage the inventory information on NJDEP databases;
    - Delineate the source water assessment area for each well;

- Inventory potential sources of contamination in those source water assessment areas;
- Perform assessments of the wells' susceptibility to regulated contaminants by applying specifically developed statistical models;

3. Revise the source water protection web page to incorporate any recent protection activities. This is an ongoing activity.

4. Continue working with water systems and the interested public to assure the accuracy of the source water assessments. As changes occur, NJDEP will need to revise and reissue the source water assessment information. This is an ongoing activity.

5. Continue to assist interested groups with their source water protection activities. This includes assisting NJ Water Association with their source water protection reports and assisting NJDEP's Office of Planning and Sustainable Communities in developing model well head protection ordinances. This is an ongoing activity.

6. Complete USEPA documents to report the progress of the ongoing source water assessments and source water protection activities. This is an ongoing activity.

7. Continue to assist public water systems with their Consumer Confidence Reports regarding their source water assessment information. This is an ongoing activity.

**STATE PROGRAM AMANAGEMENT**
**Capacity Development**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(1%, 1 FTE)**

## Background

Section 1420(a) of the Federal SDWA requires that each state have the legal authority to ensure that all new CWS and NTNC water systems demonstrate adequate technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity. On August 2, 1999, the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act (N.J.S.A. 58:12A) was amended to give New Jersey explicit legal authority to require new public water systems to demonstrate capacity; N.J.A.C. 7:10-13 establishes capacity requirements of all new CWS and NTNC water systems before system operation begins.

Section 1420(c) of the Federal SDWA requires each state to develop and implement a strategy to assist existing public water systems in acquiring and maintaining compliance with the Federal and State SDWA regulations. In accordance with Section 1420(c), New Jersey submitted to the USEPA a Capacity Development Strategy (Strategy) for review and approval on August 3, 2000. The Strategy, which establishes the programmatic approach to the capacity development of existing public water systems, was approved by the USEPA on September 28, 2000 and revised in 2018.

The Capacity Development Program will continue efforts to:

1. Reduce or eliminate the number of existing public water systems in significant non-compliance with the Federal and State SDWA regulations by ensuring adequate capacity (technical, managerial, and financial).
2. Prevent the formation and operation of any new non-viable CWS or NTNC water system by ensuring adequate capacity prior to the system commencing operations.
3. Provide public water systems with accurate, timely, and appropriate information to promote or maintain their capacity to ensure compliance with the Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Act regulations.
4. Provide an evaluation of the capacity of CWS or nonprofit NCWS that are scheduled to receive monies from the DWSRF.

## Goals

The following items will be addressed during SFY2019:

1. Prepare and finalize the SFY2018 Capacity Development Annual Report that documents the ongoing implementation and status of the Capacity Development program by September 30, 2018.

2. Provide status updates for those public water systems on the 2016 Capacity Development Strategy List (Strategy List) based on the capacity evaluations that have already been completed, as well as those that are underway.

3. Provide direct technical assistance to public water systems on the Strategy List, and other public water systems headed towards significant noncompliance. This function will be performed cooperatively on an ongoing basis and will include:

    - Technical assistance in the form of direct consultation, site visits and planning assistance for water systems to comply with regulations.
    - The identification and facilitation of resources such as the Community Engineering Corps (CEC), Resources of Communities and People (RCAP), and other beneficial resources which provide engineering design and construction, operation and maintenance guidance, and other forms of assistance to eligible public water systems.
    - Help public water systems enhance capacity through the incorporation of asset management planning principles, needed to prioritize the ongoing maintenance, repair, and replacement of infrastructure and to eventually develop a valid asset management plan.
        - Systems will be introduced to tools such as the USEPA's Simple Tools for Effective Performance (STEP) Guide Series, Check Up Program for Small Systems (CUPSS), or similar tools/software, as appropriate.
        - The program anticipates involvement, as appropriate, in discussions to foster the water system's ability to determine for themselves how best to accrue the funds required to maintain their system. This will be performed on an ongoing basis.

4. Process technical, managerial, financial evaluations consistent with applicable State regulations (N.J.A.C. 7:10-13) for new CWS and NTNC systems as identified by the NJDEP and/or CEHA agencies. This will be performed on an ongoing basis.

5. Explore possible rule amendments to support capacity development.

6. Coordinate with organizations like RCAP, Environmental Finance Center Network (EFCN), and Rural Water Association for the USEPA compliance grants they were awarded to provide training and technical assistance throughout New Jersey.

7. Arrange for seminars, workshops, and/or webcasts to provide training on:
    - Evaluating, obtaining, and maintaining technical, managerial, and financial capacity;
    - Developing and implementing effective asset management planning, as well as utilizing existing and upcoming asset management tools, such as CUPSS;
    - Management and board member training; and
    - Obtaining stakeholder input on possible revisions to the capacity development strategy and associated forms and guidance documents. This will be performed on an ongoing basis.

8. Update web resources, specifically, the Capacity Development Program section under the Division website. Ensure that this site provides technical, managerial, and financial assistance resources and guidance to drinking water systems, operators, and all other interested parties. This is an ongoing activity.

9. Provide internal training for Division staff in relevant topics, such as, capacity development, drinking water system operations, asset management, and rules and regulations, to ensure that staff are prepared to assist systems. This is an ongoing activity.

10. Continue to implement process improvements identified as part of the NJDEP's Capacity Development Program self-assessment. This is an ongoing activity.

11. Identify collaboration opportunities between institutions, organizations, and other vital stakeholders to the Capacity Development Program, that look to provide an understanding of adequate and reliable water system operations to public water systems, operators, and board members. This is an ongoing activity.

**STATE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**
**Operator Certification**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(1%, 0.5 FTE)**

## Background

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act amendments (1996) required the USEPA to publish guidelines specifying minimum standards for certification and recertifying operators of CWS and NTNC water systems, which states were required to adopt by 2001. New Jersey regulations at N.J.A.C. 7:10A "*Licensing of Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment System* Operators" provides an operator certification program that meets the USEPA requirements and requires all public CWS and NTNC to employ a licensed operator.

## Operator Certification

BSDW routinely checks to ensure that CWS and NTNC are under the supervision of a licensed operator through coordination with the NJDEP Examinations & Licensing Office, Enforcement, and CEHAs. Use of a shared database has reduced the time needed to perform this task. The NJDEP believes that licensed operator oversight at small public water systems can resolve many of the noncompliance issues that commonly occur at these systems, resulting in a significant reduction of SDWA violations.

The NJDEP requires licensees to obtain continuing education credits, known as, Training Contact Hours (TCHs), for operator license renewal. The NJDEP has recognized the Office of Continuing Professional Education (OCPE) at Rutgers University, the New Jersey Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA-NJ), the New Jersey Water Environment Association (NJWEA), the New Jersey Water Association (NJWA), the American Water Works Service Company, Hunterdon County Polytech, Delaware Technical and Community College, and Aqua New Jersey, along with a few online training programs, as qualified course providers. The NJDEP has also approved over 400 continuing education courses given by independent course providers for TCHs and continues to review requests for TCH approval from training providers.

The NJDEP has engaged in several activities to support operator training programs in New Jersey. The NJDEP contracted with the OCPE at Rutgers University to provide 50 percent tuition subsidies for continuing education to water licensed operators. The Operator Certification Program has begun the process to initiate a new $198,000 contract with OCPE, and it is currently under review. The new contract will pick up from the last contract and will continue tuition subsidies through June 30, 2020. The NJDEP issued a three (3) month No-Cost Time Extension to allow OCPE at Rutgers to continue their contract as we await initiation of the new $198,000 contract.

In addition, NJDEP reimburses tuition and textbook costs to qualified individuals taking the required and approved introductory and advanced certification courses, as well as the Very Small Water Systems (VSWS) course. Across the State there are eleven (11) education systems providing introductory or advanced certification courses and two (2) education systems providing the VSWS course.

As noted in the SSTA section of this workplan, the NJDEP continues to contract with the NJWA to provide seventy (70) group training sessions free of charge to owners and operators of small water systems. NJDEP is utilizing the DWSRF SSTA set-aside funds for the most recent $161,000 contract that will continue the same services as the previous contract. The NJDEP issued a three (3) month No-Cost Time Extension to allow for the previous contract to meet the required amount of group training sessions. The new contract was in effect immediately after the extension end date of March 31, 2018 and will continue through December 31, 2019.

## Goals

The following items will be addressed during SFY2019:

1. Prepare and finalize the SFY2018 Operator Certification Annual Report, which documents the ongoing implementation of the operator certification by September 30, 2018.

2. Finalize guidance documents pertaining to the duties and responsibilities of operators vs. owners at drinking water systems. Once finalized, the Operator Certification Program intends to disseminate these guidance documents to owners and operators of public water systems and to post on the Division website, as well as present the new guidance documents through a series of trainings and seminars to the regulated community.

3. Continue to draft and review guidance documents for the duties and responsibilities of operators for each class of Water Treatment (T) and Water Distribution (W) public water system. Although guidance was developed in previous years, the Operator Certification Program made recommendations for revisions that will be reviewed and finalized. Once finalized, the Operator Certification Program intends to disseminate these guidance documents.

4. Continue to routinely monitor coverage of T-3 and T-4 facilities as licensed operators change employment and coordinate with Enforcement, to ensure that all T-3 and T-4 systems have the appropriate full-time primary operator and backup coverage.

5. The BSDW will work with the NJDEP Board of Examiners to finalize a Standard Operating Procedure for the review of request for reciprocity of water treatment operators from other states.

6. Continue to improve data systems to automate processes where possible and improve data management and therefore, ultimately compliance.

7. Improve and adopt internal Standard Operating Procedures to ensure compliance with requirements regarding appropriately licensed operator requirements, including periodic compliance data runs, surveys to systems, data management of licensed operator of record and back up operators, internal referral process for operator complaints, clear and concise correspondence templates and a process for referral to Enforcement. This is an ongoing activity.

8. NJDEP plans to continue providing training events for operators in SFY2019, at several locations throughout the State. NJWA-hosted sessions will include topics such as, operator duties and responsibilities, asset management and updates to rules and regulations.

9. Coordinate with Local agencies, CEHAs, and Enforcement to ensure a high rate of compliance with the licensed operator requirement. This activity is ongoing.

10. Review referrals reported to the Operator Certification Program pertaining to licensed operator issues discovered by Division staff in situations of noncompliance with the NJ SDWA and licensing regulations. Conduct site visits as appropriate to determine if the licensed operators are performing duties in accordance with the regulations.

11. Monitor exam pass rates and identify opportunities to improve course review.

12. Provide funding for tuition subsidies to qualified water operators taking courses at Rutgers' OCPE. The current contract was given a three (3) Month No-Cost Time Extension through to March 31, 2018 to continue to provide for 50% tuition subsidies while the new contract (currently under review) is executed. BSDW will continue to administer this program by reviewing and tracking reimbursements made under the contract. The reimbursement program is ongoing.

13. Provide tuition and textbook reimbursement to public water system operators who demonstrate that they have successfully completed the approved introductory, advanced, and VSWS courses.

14. Directly reimburse educational institutions offering the 12-hour VSWS training course, using DWSRF operator certification set-aside funds, at the rate of $200 per student completing the course (or on a break-even basis if there are an excessive number of no-shows). This enables schools to continue to offer the course at a low-cost (approximately $25 registration fee) to owners and operators of small water systems.

15. Revise and update the Operator Certification portion of the Division website.

16. Interact with systems to ensure compliance with regulations. This includes verifying treatment records and classification with water systems and licensed operators to ensure that NJDEP records are accurate and current. Public water systems that have a change in classification must employ the appropriate licensed operators and must ensure that they are submitting timely and accurate monthly operator reports.

17. The Division will continue collaborate and communicate with internal and external stakeholders on the assessment of the Operator Certification Program. The goal of the assessment is to memorialize internal process, draft templates and updated forms and ultimately implement interim and long-term changes. Stakeholders include the DWLUE, the Division of Water Quality, Examinations & Licensing, CEHAs, NJWA, AWWA-NJ, South Jersey Water Professionals, approved training schools, and public water systems.

**STATE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**
**Public Water System Supervision**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(7%, 10 FTE)**

## Background

According to the 1996 amendments to the Federal SDWA (Section 1452 (g)(2)(A)) the states may perform public water system supervision activities using the DWSRF set-asides.

**Radon in Water**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(1 FTE)**

## Radon in Water

On November 2, 1999, the USEPA proposed a Radon in Drinking Water regulation. In the proposed rule, the MCL for radon was set at 300 picocuries per liter (pCi/L), and the USEPA proposed an Alternate MCL (AMCL) of 4000 pCi/L for radon. According to the proposal, the AMCL must be accompanied by a Multi-Media Mitigation Program (MMMP) to address risks from radon in indoor air. The proposed rule has not been adopted and the USEPA has not included radon in its most recent regulatory calendar.

In the absence of a promulgated federal radon MCL, the NJDEP Commissioner requested the Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI) investigate the best approach for regulating radon in water in New Jersey. Given the prevalence of radon in New Jersey drinking water supplies, and because New Jersey has a well-established and effective voluntary radon in air program[2], the DWQI believed that the contribution to risk from $^{222}Rn$ in water should be addressed by a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) rather than by the risk trading concept of the MMMP. The DWQI recommended to the Commissioner of NJDEP a MCL of 800 pCi/L in February 2009 and recommended that the NJDEP work with the Legislature to enact mandatory radon testing in indoor air for schools and for homes during real estate transactions, and to consider other mandatory policies to further reduce public health risks posed by radon in indoor air. The NJDEP completed a cost-benefit analysis of the Drinking Water Quality Institute's recommendation to the NJDEP.

## Goals

1. If requested, assist the NJDEP in promulgating a Maximum Contaminant Level for radon in water. Provide technical support related to the biological effects of radon and the risk of radon in water and radon in air.

[2] The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection was one of four recipients of the September 10, 2007 *Radon Leaders Saving Lives* award for outstanding leadership and innovation in reducing the risk from radon in indoor air.

2. If a radon rule is proposed, develop and administer a course on radon in water testing and mitigation. Collaborate with the Eastern Regional Radon Training Center at Rutgers University to advertise and register participants.

3. Continue to provide an outreach service to the public and the radon industry with regards to testing and mitigation of radon in water and radon in air. Specifically, develop a Homeowner's Guide to Radon in Water. A draft Homeowner's Guide was developed. This effort will be ongoing.

4. Maintain and update the Radon in air database. The Radon Section has a database that is used to generate statistics about testing and mitigation in New Jersey. Certification is required for individuals who perform radon testing and mitigation in New Jersey. The database has the capability to accept radon in water data, however it will require enhancements in order to allow for the collection of additional data as well as the manipulation of existing data. This effort will be ongoing.

5. If sufficient staff is available, attend the Conference of Radiation Control Program Director's National Radon meeting to gather the latest information about radon testing and mitigation, risk reduction strategies and updates on what other states are doing in regard to radon in water and radon in air. This effort will be ongoing.

6. Maintain technical reference materials for radon in water mitigation. This effort will be ongoing.

7. Continue efforts with the Radon Section to develop quantitative goals for (a) the development of new construction that is radon resistant, (b) the mitigation of radon in air at existing homes, and (c) mandatory testing for real estate transactions. This effort will be ongoing.

**Data Management**
**Work Plan SFY20199**
**(4 FTE)**

## Data Management

New Jersey Safe Drinking Water program uses two electronic data management systems to facilitate the program's efforts to ensure that water systems meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and to meet its obligations to the USEPA.

The New Jersey Drinking Water Program uses the NJDEP enterprise data management system, New Jersey Environmental Management System (NJEMS), to consolidate many of its existing individual data management systems across NJDEP and across many media (e.g., air, water, land). NJEMS is an integrated department-wide data management system used primarily for permit, reporting, and enforcement activities.

NJDEP also utilizes the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) to address the needs of the Safe Drinking Water program such as compliance determinations and the corresponding reporting of these determinations to the USEPA. The NJDEP is currently using SDWIS/State web release 3.33 (SDWIS 3.33) and related applications.

In addition, NJDEP uses the Electronic Environmental (E2) Reporting System for laboratory reporting of sample results, and the NJEMS-SDWIS/State Interface for violation and enforcement action processing in NJEMS and SDWIS 3.33. The *New Jersey Electronic Environmental (E2) Reporting System* provides drinking water systems and laboratories a format to electronically report drinking water monitoring analytical data to the NJDEP, in lieu of the paper-to-data-system process. NJDEP began implementing (in production) the E2 Reporting System in January 2007, and by 2010, electronic reporting was mandatory for all public water systems for most parameters.

NJDEP continues to perform additional development and implementation work to more fully utilize the available functionality built into NJEMS and SDWIS 3.33, to enhance drinking water system inventory, monitoring, analytical data management, and to facilitate environmental decision making as required under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The NJDEP is actively participating in USEPA's SDWIS Prime workgroups in anticipation of the first version SDWIS Prime proposed to be released by USEPA in November 2018.

## Goals

1. Continue to determine compliance with primary drinking water regulations using SDWIS 3.33. Outstanding SDWIS/State 3.33 implementation issues include:
   - General support for first-time compliance runs (e.g., surface water treatment rule etc.).

   - Any other SDWIS-related work to utilize additional SDWIS 3.33 capabilities for SFY2019. Ongoing for SFY2019.

2. Continue user training for SDWIS/State 3.33. Additional SDWIS 3.3 user training is ongoing for SFY2019.

3. Continue to modify the NJDEP Drinking Water Watch as needed to reflect water system information: for development, testing and implementation. Ongoing for SFY2019.

4. Maintain the *New Jersey Electronic Environmental (E2) Reporting System (E2)* for drinking water systems and laboratories to electronically report drinking water monitoring analytical data to the NJDEP, in lieu of a paper-to-data-system process. Ongoing tasks to be performed include:

    - Continue training and roll-out of new versions and enhancements of the E2 Reporting System;
    - Continue mandatory participation of water systems and laboratories;
    - Identify enhancements appropriate to improve the E2 Reporting System;
    - Develop and maintain procedures to improve data quality control;
    - Continue to conduct the implementation of the E2 system that is now compatible with SDWIS 3.33 and is now in production; and
    - Plan and execute a contract between NJDEP and appropriate vendors to develop, test, and put into production a modified E2 Reporting System as applicable for the new SDWIS Prime application.

5. Continue to maintain data integrity between the two NJDEP data systems and to facilitate improved data quality and data management efficiency using an electronic data interface between NJEMS and SDWIS/State. Ongoing activities to be performed include:

    - Develop and maintain standard operating procedures;
    - Develop and maintain procedures to improve data quality control;
    - Perform data reconciliation and validation, including treatment plants, processes and objectives, violation descriptions for non-compliance, and corrective actions;
    - Conduct staff training to ensure appropriate use of the interface.
    - The NJDEP proposes to conduct the planning, design, development, testing, and implementation of enhancements to the NJEMS-SDWIS/State Interface to ensure compatibility with the next version of SDWIS called SDWIS Prime.
    - The NJDEP proposes to plan and execute a contract between NJDEP and appropriate vendors to develop, test, and put into production a modified NJEMS-SDWIS/State Interface, as applicable, to be compatible with SDWIS Prime.

6. Develop and implement Safe Drinking Water queries and reports for NJEMS, SDWIS 3.33, and E2, to enhance and improve the operation of the Safe Drinking Water Program and facilitate data integrity updates to the two data systems, critical business processes, and public information access. Ongoing activities to be performed include:

    - Process and evaluate drinking water monitoring data and perform compliance decisions in SDWIS/State;

- Develop and implement critical business queries and reports in NJEMS, SDWIS/State, and E2;
- Develop and maintain standard operating procedures for the use of NJEMS, SDWIS/State, and E2;
- Prepare reports and other output from NJEMS, SDWIS/State, and E2 to address inquiries from within NJDEP, other government agencies, regulated water systems, and the public; and
- Develop and maintain procedures to improve data quality control.
- Provide subject matter experts and participation in the ongoing planning efforts needed to begin transition activities for SDWIS Prime during SFY2019. Provide feedback to USEPA as it continues to develop, design, and test SDWIS Prime. Activities to be performed include:
    - The NJDEP will utilize available funding for contractual support for enhancements and maintenance of the existing data systems, including NJEMS, SDWIS 3.33, NJEMS-SDWIS/State Interface, and E2 Reporting System.
    - The NJDEP may propose to purchase computer and related electronic hardware and software upgrades with previously identified funds to ensure compatibility with SDWIS Prime.

7. Provide subject matter experts and participation in the Electronic Monthly Operator Report (eMOR) Tool development, testing and implementation. This tool will allow the electronic submission of Monthly Operator Reports (MORs) by public water systems. The tool will also allow for the submitted data to be analyzed and managed, and will assist staff to evaluate the daily operation of the water system. Currently MORs are submitted on paper.

**STATE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**
**Rule Implementation**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(5 FTE)**

## Rule Implementation

The NJDEP has identified that Program Management set-aside funding is needed to administer existing and new rules. This set-aside assists in the implementation of the following existing or anticipated rules on an ongoing basis:

- Revised Total Coliform Rule (effective date April 2016)
- Groundwater Rule,
- Radionuclide Rule,
- Microbial/Disinfection Byproducts (M/DBP) cluster of rules including Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts (DBP) and LT2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule,
- Lead and Copper Short-term revisions,
- Lead and Copper Rule Long Term Revisions (proposal expected in 2018 with adoption expected in 2019),
- New Jersey MCLs for perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) and 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) (adoption anticipated by August 2018),
- New Jersey MCLs for Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (proposal expected in 2018)
- Radon Rule (adoption date unknown),
- Perchlorate (proposal date unknown), and
- Carcinogenic VOCs (proposal date unknown)

The Division's Water System Operations Element, currently administers the existing SDWA rules and activities. Staff interact with the USEPA to ensure that New Jersey follows the existing regulations. The NJDEP staff provide the following including: review and approval of new treatment needed to comply with the rules, review and response to data submitted for compliance with the rules, specific site visits to explain the rules to various water systems, sanitary surveys to supplement existing inspections, Stage 2 and LT2 implementation activities, and the many other additional activities the rules will need to have addressed. This is an ongoing activity.

In SFY2019, the USEPA and the Division will continue to take a closer look at the implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule. In 2015, the Division began looking at internal procedures to determine if water quality parameters, specifically, were being collected correctly, and determined that improvements were needed. As training sessions with water systems were being conducted, national concerns about how the overall Lead and Copper Rule was being implemented were raised. This ongoing effort includes closer tracking of action level exceedances, guidance on selection of sampling sites, review of lead and copper sampling plans, review of corrosion control plans and additional USEPA reporting requirements. State legislation (Summer 2017) on testing of New Jersey schools supplements the federal Safe Drinking Water requirements, and is part of New Jersey's overall strategy to decrease exposure to lead in drinking water.

In February 2018, the NJDEP submitted a primacy application for the RTCR and is awaiting final approval from USEPA. The primacy application includes a description of amendments to the State rules that were adopted on November 6, 2017.

Other tasks that will continue in SFY2019 as part of the rule implementation include review of the RTCR sampling plans, additional outreach to seasonal water systems and New Jersey State Parks, review of Level 1 and Level 2 assessments and additional training for licensed operators and industry personnel.

In SFY2019, the NJDEP will continue to improve the quality of sanitary surveys and the implementation of the surface water treatment rule. In SFY2018, the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience established a team to review compliance with the surface water treatment rule. The team is tasked with reviewing compliance with turbidity and chlorine monitoring, evaluating CT calculations, establishing guidance for inspections at surface water systems, and developing guidance for staff to use during emergencies at surface water plants. The NJDEP will also continue its limited participation in selected Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) activities. The AWOP is a partnership among the USEPA, State agencies, and supporting organizations that fosters the continued development and implementation of the program.

On August 7, 2017, the NJDEP proposed amendments to the NJ SDWA rules that establish new MCLs for PFNA and 1,2,3-TCP based on recommendations of the Drinking Water Quality Institute. Adoption is anticipated by August 2018 and would require all public community and public non-transient, non-community water systems to begin monitoring for these contaminants starting in January 2019. The new rules also require monitoring for radionuclides beginning in 2019 for public non-transient, non-community water systems, and update monitoring requirements of the Private Well Testing Act (PWTA) rules. NJDEP has also been directed by the Commissioner to move forward with rulemaking to establish New Jersey MCLs for PFOA and PFOS, with proposal anticipated in 2018.

The NJDEP's Drinking Water Security Program supports drinking water infrastructure protection efforts and initiatives as established for public water systems by state, local, and federal agencies. The Drinking Water Security Program may use this Rule Implementation set-aside to provide funding for drinking water security activities including, but not limited to, ensuring that public water systems, as applicable, perform security vulnerability assessments; develop emergency response plans; and receive training and assistance regarding various security requirements and guidance in SFY2019.

**Goals**:

1. Continue to review RTCR sample plans and Level 1 and Level 2 assessments.

2. Develop and update guidance for improved compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule, such as guidance on sample locations, development of sampling plans, templates for reporting lead and copper information. Continue to review lead and copper sampling plans.

3. Continue to collaborate with other environmental and health programs, such as the Environmental Justice Advisory Council (EJAC), to enhance public outreach regarding lead exposure, specifically through drinking water.

4. Improve sanitary survey capabilities within the Division. Participate in inspections with Enforcement and USEPA at surface water systems to develop improved procedures for evaluating turbidity and chlorine data.

5. Participate in AWOP conference calls and/or training.

6. Develop guidance for public water systems on the new MCL rule requirements. Ensure systems are aware of new monitoring requirements by providing training through organizations such as NJWA.

7. Propose new MCLs for PFOA and PFOS with associated monitoring requirements.

**STATE PROGAM MANAGEMENT**
**Public Water System Supervision-Sampling**
**Work Plan SFY2019**
**(0 FTE)**

NJDEP receives funding for special purpose monitoring and laboratory analytical services, under the annual Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) grant authorized by the USEPA, for state administration of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Funding for these services is eligible under the PWSS grant and under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, State Program Management Set-Aside for PWSS State Program.

The PWSS and DWSRF set-aside funds cannot be used for routine sampling and analyses which are otherwise required of a public water system as part of its normal compliance monitoring requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act rules and regulations. However, PWSS and DWSRF set-aside funds may be used for State sampling and analyses of special purpose monitoring, surveillance monitoring, and or other discrete special one-time monitoring.

The NJDEP proposes to use these additional funds for special purpose monitoring and laboratory analytical services as it determines necessary and appropriate. An example of this is the monitoring of synthetic organic compounds in raw water sources statewide to provide the basis of the SOC waiver program in New Jersey. The program additionally samples all CWSs new sources of water for an expanded list of contaminants. Lastly, NJDEP periodically conducts limited occurrence studies on new contaminants. The NJDEP utilizes the Department of Health (DOH) laboratory to conduct the analyses. For the limited occurrence studies, NJDEP may contract with private laboratories that are able to perform analytical methods for which the New Jersey Department of health laboratory is not certified or does not routinely perform. The NJDEP will utilize existing resources to collect and transport the samples. These activities will be implemented on an ongoing basis for SFY2019.