



AWIA 2018: Risk Assessments and Emergency Response Plans

Does this apply to me?

*Are you a community water system
serving a
population >3,300?*



Agenda



- Risk Assessments (RA)
 - Why are these important?
 - What must my RA include?
 - When is the deadline?
 - What tools are available?
 - How do I certify?
- Emergency Response Plans
 - Why are these important?
 - What must my ERP include?
 - When is the deadline?
 - What tools are available?
 - How do I certify?



Risk Assessments

Why are Risk Assessments (RA) Important?

Assess



Plan



Train



Respond



Recover



Step 1 – Route to Resilience

What must my RA include?

Assessment of –

- risk to the system from malevolent acts and natural hazards;
- resilience of the pipes and constructed conveyances, physical barriers, source water, water collection and intake, pretreatment, treatment, storage and distribution facilities, electronic, computer, or other automated systems (including the security of such systems) which are utilized by the system;
- monitoring practices of the system;
- financial infrastructure of the system;
- use, storage, or handling of various chemicals by the system; and
- operation and maintenance of the system; and
- an evaluation of capital and operational needs for risk and resilience management for the system.

When is the deadline?

Population
served
 $\geq 100,000$

**March 31,
2020**

DUE

Population
served
50,000-99,999

**December
31, 2020**

DUE

Population
served
3,301-49,999

**June 30,
2021**

DUE



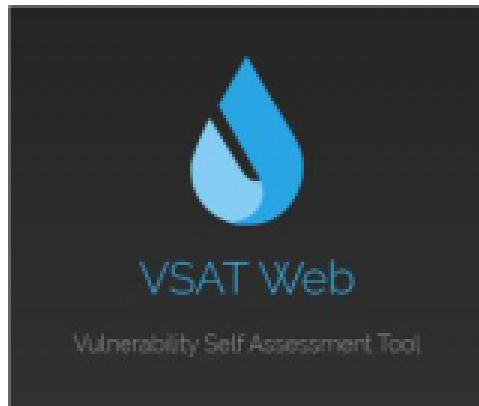
What tools are available?



Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool

<https://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/conduct-drinking-water-or-wastewater-utility-risk-assessment>

Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool



- For utilities of all sizes
- Identifies the highest risk to mission—critical operations
- Finds the most cost-effective measures to reduce those risks
- Designed for tablets, laptops and desktop computers
- Compliant with DHS Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies (SAFTEY) Act program

Update Coming Soon!

How do I certify?

Three ways to certify:



Online



Email



Postal mail

**Additional Information
and Certification Form
Coming Soon!**

**Certification will not require utilities to submit
copies of their Risk Assessment.**





Emergency Response Plans

Why are Emergency Response Plans important?

Assess



Plan



Train



Respond



Recover



Step 2 – Route to Resilience

What must my ERP include?

ERP must incorporate findings of the RA conducted and include –

- strategies and resources to improve the resilience of the system, including the physical security and cybersecurity of the system;
- plans and procedures that can be implemented, and identification of equipment that can be utilized, in the event of a malevolent act or natural hazard that threatens the ability of the community water system to deliver safe drinking water;
- actions, procedures, and equipment which can obviate or significantly lessen the impact of a malevolent act or natural hazard on the public health and the safety and supply of drinking water provided to communities and individuals, including the development of alternative source water options, relocation of water intakes, and construction of flood protection barriers; and
- strategies that can be used to aid in the detection of malevolent acts or natural hazards that threaten the security or resilience of the system.

Coordinate with LEPC when preparing your ERP!



When is the deadline?

Deadline is utility specific.

No more than 6 months after Risk Assessment certification.
Listed below are the latest dates as guidelines for those who
certify Risk Assessments on the due date.

Population
served
≥100,000

**September
30, 2020**

DUE

Population
served
50,000-99,999

**June 30,
2021**

DUE

Population
served
3,301-49,999

**December
30, 2021**

DUE





What tools are available?



Emergency Response Plan Template

Update Coming Soon!

EPA is currently revising its existing guidance on developing Emergency Response Plans to reflect the new requirements under AWIA.



How do I certify?

Three ways to certify:



Online



Email



Postal mail

**Additional Information
and Certification Form
Coming Soon!**

How often
do I need
to
recertify?

Every **5**
years from
original
due dates



Use of Standards and Tools



- EPA does not require the use any standards or tools to develop a risk assessments or ERP under AWIA
 - CWS are only required to follow the law
- The use of standards (e.g., AWWA methods) and tools from EPA and others is recommended
 - Methods and tools can facilitate the development of sound risk assessments and ERPs
- No method or tool “guarantees” compliance with AWIA
 - The CWS must ensure it complies with all AWIA requirements
 - Alternate methods cannot be used in place of AWIA requirements

FAQs



Will my certification information be protected? Yes, EPA will protect information submitted under Section 2013 based on the protection afforded to all information submitted under SDWA Section 1433.

What about those VAs that were submitted under the Bioterrorism Act of 2002? EPA will provide utilities with the ability to request to have their old VA copy returned or it will be destroyed.

Do I need to send a copy of the RA or ERP? No, you only need to certify that you have completed them in accordance with the legal requirements.

Is there funding available to assist utilities? Currently there is no specific funding designated for this requirement. Contact your state primacy agency about the potential use of SRF funds.



Emergency Notification

Amends Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Section 304 to add:
(e)(1) Applicable State Agency Notification
(e)(2) Community Water System Notification

SERC (or TERC) Notification Requirements

- The State or Tribal Emergency Response Commission (SERC or TERC) shall:
 - Promptly notify the applicable State agency (i.e., the drinking water primacy agency) of any reportable release of an EPCRA extremely hazardous substance ([Appendices A](#) and [B](#) of 40 CFR Part 355) or a CERCLA hazardous substance (40 CFR Part [302.4\(a\)](#))
 - Reportable release: releases that exceed established reportable quantities within a 24-hour period.

SERC (or TERC) Notification Requirements

- The SERC (or TERC) shall provide the drinking water primacy agency a written follow-up notice:
 - As soon as practicable after the release, the written notice shall provide updates to the information provided in the original notification, as well as additional information with respect to:
 - Actions taken to respond to and contain the release;
 - Any known or anticipated acute or chronic health risks; and
 - Where appropriate, advice regarding medical attention necessary for exposed individuals.

Primacy Agency Notification Requirements

Notice to Community Water Systems

- The drinking water primacy agency receiving notice from a SERC (or TERC) shall:
 - Promptly forward the initial notice, and all information provided, to any community water systems whose source waters are affected by the release.
 - Forward the written follow-up emergency notice provided to the affected community water systems.

Direct Notification

Notice to Community Water Systems

- If a state does not have a drinking water primacy agency:
 - The SERC (or TERC) shall provide the required notices and information to the community water systems affected by the release.

Chemical Inventory Data Availability

Amends EPCRA Section 312(e) to add
Community Water Systems



Chemical Inventory Data Availability

- AWIA Sec 2018(b) amends EPCRA Sec 312
 - Requires SERCs (or TERCs) and LEPCs (or TEPCs) to provide affected* community water systems with chemical inventory data submitted under Tier 2 of EPCRA for their source water area, upon request from the system.

* One or more community water systems (as defined in SDWA Section 1401(15)) that receives supplies of drinking water from a source water protection area delineated under SDWA Section 1453, in which a facility that is required to prepare and submit an inventory form under EPCRA Section 312 is located.



**Stay
Tuned For
Updates!**

America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018: Risk Assessments and Emergency Response Plans

On October 23, 2018, America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) was signed into law. The law requires community (drinking) water systems serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update risk assessments and emergency response plans (ERPs). The law includes components that the risk assessments and ERPs must address, and establishes deadlines by which water systems must certify to EPA completion of the risk assessment and ERP.

EPA's Water Security Division is currently working to develop the tools, resources and procedures that water systems need to comply with Section 1433 of the AWIA. This site will be updated with new information as that work progresses.

<https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/americas-water-infrastructure-act-2018-risk-assessments-and-emergency-response-plans>



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