



## Association of Environmental Authorities of New Jersey

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

### BPU Plans Stakeholder Meeting on One Call

The NJ Board of Public Utilities has announced a stakeholder meeting on tomorrow, April 11, at 10 a.m. In the multi-purpose room, first floor, 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton regarding the re-adoption of N.J.A.C.14:2 - Underground Facilities: One Call Damage Prevention System.

AEA and other entities had challenged mark-out rules the BPU re-adopted and, as a result, the court directed BPU to review them. The planned meeting is the next in a series of meetings the BPU has had following that court decision. For more information [see this announcement](#).

### AEA Members Weigh in on Proposed Surface Water Quality Standards (C-1 Rule Proposal)-PRN 2019-028



The NJDEP on March 4 published a rule proposal that would add more than 700 miles of river/streams in New Jersey to the C1 anti-degradation classification.

While AEA recognizes the importance of protecting surface water, we are concerned about some aspects of this rule and are joining other groups, including the NJ State League of Municipalities, in asking for an extension of the comment period, which expires May 3.

Additional time would allow for ensuring all impacted treatments plants are aware of the rule change. It would also allow time for AEA to review data used to select the stream segments to be upgraded to C1. Please contact Peggy if you are affected or have questions.

Here is a [link to the proposal](#).

### New EO Says Rules to be Based on "Best Data Available' and other Principles

Gov. Murphy Tuesday signed Executive Order No. 63 establishing "new regulatory

principles" and rescinding/replacing Gov. Chris Christie's EO2, on regulatory principles. EO63 will establish principles "to foster economic growth and government efficiency, as well as protect the environment, health, safety, and welfare of New Jersey's residents and communities." EO63 is effective June 1, 2019.

EO63 directives include requirements that state agencies "seek to develop state-level regulatory framework and cooperate with other states where appropriate when federal regulation is inadequate to protect the environment, health, safety and welfare of NJ's residents and communities; evaluate actions NJ may take when the federal government repeals or rolls back prior protections for public health, welfare, safety, or the environment; use the best available data, including scientific data if applicable" and more.

For a copy of the news release from the Governor's office and the executive order itself [are posted here](#).

## AEA Achieves Two Key Legislative Goals

When Gov. Phil Murphy signed S1073 into law Monday, March 18, he provided AEA with two positive legislative developments.

S1073 permits authorities to partner with municipalities and counties to create stormwater utilities providing authorities with opportunities to expand their suite of services and demonstrate their ability to help further protect the community's environment. Under the bill, an MS4 (stormwater permit) holder municipality or county may enter into a contract with an authority for stormwater management/enforcement.

Under Section 19 of the S1073, 14A, regional sewerage authorities in all but three counties (Essex, Bergen and Hudson) are no longer covered by the two-percent cap. Where the cap remains, Section 19 adds a seventh exemption - for the cost of creating a stormwater utility. The six exemptions in the original

law, which Gov. Christie signed days before he was to leave office, were amendments AEA requested.

[Here is a link](#).

Many in AEA worked on the passage of S1073. This legislative success resulted from the support of the AEA board of directors and the work of Diane Alexander, Mike Gianforte, Ryan Krause, Chris Langhart, Bob Beinfield, Brian Valentino, Bob Fischer, Dennis Palmer, John Napolitano, Rob Vilee, Dennis Estis, and Jim Meehan. (If I left anyone out, please forgive me.)

It also came about because three authority boards exerted pressure from the outside through the courts: Two Rivers WRA, Rahway Valley SA, and Plainfield Area RSA. The



support of Senators Vin Gopal, Bob Smith and Brian Stack was also key. Marc Pfeiffer, with Rutgers Center for Government, provided pivotal advice. Princeton Public Affairs, which supports AEA legislative work, provided key advice and helped facilitate the dialogue we needed to have with key legislators.

## Work Group to Focus on Implementation of Stormwater Utility Law

AEA members are invited to participate in a work group that will examine how an authority might participate in a stormwater utility. This could include elements of shared services agreements, collection or assessment of fees, or other matters. This group would also develop AEA input for the DEP as it formulates guidance as required by the new law. If you are interested in participating in this working group, please contact Karen or Peggy.

## Commissioner Suppers Network. Share. Learn.

**NEW DATE!**

Due to a scheduling conflict, please note that the date for this event has changed.

**Monday, April 15, 2019, 6 p.m.**  
Offices of Maraziti Falcon  
150 John F. Kennedy Parkway  
Short Hills, New Jersey 07078

Great for veteran commissioners & recent appointees. Executive Directors Welcome Too!  
Includes Supper Commissioners meet. Share insights and challenges. Topics:

- \* Responsibilities of an Environmental Authority Commissioner
- \* Efforts to Dissolve Authorities/Private NJ Public Utilities

An informal event of learning, discussion and networking Includes supper. Register by calling 609-584-1877 or emailing. [Download flier here.](#)



## Safety Committee Tips The First of Many

Thank you to Janette Kessler, safety and risk manager at Atlantic County Utilities Authority, for proposing that AEA establish a safety committee. The aim of the committee would be to help educate its own members and the rest of the association about important safety matters. Anyone interested in the committee should contact Karen, putting "safety" in the subject line.

Check out [the new Safety Committee page](#) for the AEA website. The inaugural tip is about indoor air quality. Find it by going to [www.aeanj.org](http://www.aeanj.org). Select "About AEA," then the "AEA Board and Committees" and look for the Safety Committee page. We also have Janette to thank for this.

# Energy Committee Identifies its Top Goals

The AEA Energy Committee has re-emerged just in time - when LOTS of developments are happening on the energy front. These include the BPU community solar pilot program and an updated state energy master plan. The committee, chaired by Katie Vesey of ACUA, has developed a mission statement and is sponsoring a survey that we will be distributing at the AEA conference, with an online version to be made available subsequently.

Interested in the energy committee? Email Karen with the word "energy" in the subject line.

## Environmental Professional Development Academy Track 2 - Administration Begins Today



Track 2 administration will begin Wednesday April 10, 2019 at the Western Monmouth Utilities Authority in Manalapan, NJ. The 2018 enrollees were just honored during the Recognition Luncheon at AEA's spring utility management conference on March 13. Year 4 enrollees are to be honored at the March 2020 Recognition Luncheon. If you have questions, please

call Karen or Peggy at 609-584-1877.

If anyone missed the opportunity to register for Track 2, they can still participate in the full four tracks by registering for Tracks 3 and 4 this year (these will be held later this year) and then do the next round of Tracks 1 and 2, which will take place in the first half of 2020.

[Online registration](#)  
[Download registration form](#)  
[EPDA Syllabus](#)

## News Links

We gather industry news from throughout the state so you don't have to! Explore the following headlines and more [at this news link](#)

- "We're moving as quickly as we can." EPA announces plan to address PFAS water contamination
- Bacteria persists in Navesink River, rain and overdevelopment to blame
- Contaminants in Newark-supplied water found in Nutley, Belleville, Bloomfield
- South Jersey sewage plant makes energy from wind, solar - and bacon grease
- It might take 14 years to replace lead pipes in Bergen, Hudson counties. That's not fast enough, towns say

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