



## Association of Environmental Authorities of New Jersey

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

### Workshop to Cover Bulk Water Contracts

Many NJ drinking water systems maintain long-term wholesale (bulk) water shared services with adjacent systems for basic water supply or emergency back-up. Join AEA on Thursday, **Jan. 30** from 10 a.m. to noon for an online workshop about agreements to buy or sell drinking water. Registration is \$25. **Two water TCHs will be available.**

Workshop speakers will discuss types of agreements, which can involve two government systems, two investor-owned utilities, or an investor-owned utility and a government-owned system

Also discussed will be NJ Board of Public Utilities rate cases. Attendees will be able to learn about the broader context for their own bulk water agreements and how to manage them more effectively. Speakers will be Pam Carolan, chief operating officer of Mount Laurel Township MUA, as well as James Laskey, Esq., and James Creech, Esq., both attorneys with the firm of Norris-McLaughlin.

Laskey has practiced law before the NJ Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) for 40 years. He has participated in many public utility sector proceedings concerning water and wastewater. Creech represents clients on regulatory, transaction, litigation, and permitting, including matters that come before the NJBPU. Carolan has led Mount Laurel MUA for more than 20 years, as executive director, chief operating officer, and as the operations engineer. She also worked in consulting and for the NJDEP. She is an AEA Past-President and currently serves on AEA's water, legislative and NJPDES committees.

[To register, follow this link.](#)

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### Gloucester Residents Keep a Weather Eye

In November, the voters of Gloucester Township (GT) overwhelmingly

rejected a proposal to sell the sewer system to a corporation. Now, several months after the vote, people who helped defeat the sewer referendum are watching to see whether the township-run system will be run as well as it had been when it was run as an authority.

While voters in many New Jersey towns do vote in favor of selling water and sewer systems, in Gloucester Township, they did not. Voters overwhelmingly rejected the sale of the sewer system in November, thanks to a vocal group of...

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**MAKE YOUR  
VOICE HEARD!**

## New PFAS Sampling Requirement Takes DLAs by Surprise

Last week, Delegated Local Agencies (DLAs) across New Jersey received an unexpected letter from the NJDEP Division of Water Quality directing them to begin sampling wastewater for PFAS chemicals in the first quarter of 2025.

"The Department is requiring POTWs with approved Industrial Pretreatment Programs to investigate and characterize the types of quantities of PFAS present in their influent, effluent, and residuals," said the letter.

The sampling is quarterly, for a total of four samples, and is required to begin immediately — first quarter, 2025. The letter specifies 34 PFAS compounds to be investigated. They must be analyzed using EPA Method 1633A or another approved, user-defined method which can detect the listed PFAS compounds.

In a flurry of emails, AEA members who received the letters reached out to one another to react and to find out who else was being required to initiate sampling. DLAs have long seen required sampling as inevitable, but the letter and its requirement that sampling begin immediately caught many by surprise. Some have noted that budgets adopted in the fall do not have allocations to cover sampling costs.

AEA invited affected members to participate in its check-in at 8:30 a.m. on January 22 to discuss concerns and questions arising from the letter. AEA will make a recording of the Zoom discussion and a meeting summary available, post-meeting.

The matter is also likely to be the subject of some discussion at an online meeting of the AEA NJPDES Committee scheduled for **Monday, Jan. 27** at 10:30 a.m. The NJPDES Committee also plans to discuss significant concerns members have about anticipated PFAS fresh and saline stream criteria the NJDEP expects to propose in 2025.

Those interested in the Jan. 27 NJPDES Committee meeting should contact

Karen Burris for the meeting link.

The check-in is a twice-monthly service for AEA members, held on the second and fourth Wednesday each month at 8:30 a.m. **Contact Ms. Burris to be added to the distribution list for check-in reminders.**

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## NJ Joins Other States to Defend Environmental Regulations for Air and Water

Fearing the reversal of science-based regulations under the second Trump Administration, New Jersey has announced three legal actions to protect clean air and water.

The State is filing an amicus brief to support a USEPA Final Rule setting drinking water standards for certain PFAS chemicals. It is also seeking to intervene in two national environmental matters.

In one, New Jersey wants to help defend USEPA standards for lead in drinking water. In the second, the State wants to help defend an EPA waiver allowing California to set vehicle emissions standards that are stricter than federal standards.

To read the full NJ Department of Law & Public Safety announcement, [follow this link](#).

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## New Paper Examines Fair Market Value; Cites AEA Executive Director

Cornell University researchers Mildred E. Warner and Thomas J. McKiernan have released a paper entitled, "[Challenges in Reintroducing Fair Market Value to U.S. Public Water/Wastewater Systems.](#)"

The paper discusses how water/wastewater system valuation has changed from a book value-based system towards 'fair market value' (FMV). It examines the reasons for and implications of the change, using court cases, case studies, public utility commission documents, legislative transcripts, and state statutes.

[A detailed essay on FMV and privatization](#) written by AEA Executive Director Peggy Gallos and [an oped column](#) Peggy co-authored with then-Middlesex Water CEO Dennis Doll are among the sources cited in this paper.

**Recognize**

# Excellence: Submit a Wave Award Nomination



Nominations for AEA's annual Wave Award program are due by **Jan. 31, 2025**.

This program provides an opportunity to honor a job well-done by authorities and individuals. Awards are given for many categories: contributions to member organizations, dedication to AEA, innovative work, individual and organizational achievement, energy saving, and good management.

On the nomination form, we ask you to explain why the award is deserved, and this year we are emphasizing that we welcome photos and videos that help enrich the nomination.

Please [visit this page](#) for nomination forms.

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## Visit AEA's Career Center

Job listings for the public water / wastewater industry. AEA members may submit listings for free. [Check our job listings now](#).

## NEWS LINKS

AEA gathers news relevant to our industry and archives it in one convenient place for you. [Go there now](#).

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