



Association of Environmental Authorities of New Jersey

Friday, September 28, 2018

Significant Changes Coming To NJIB Drinking Water Project Funding

Two public hearings are planned on a series of significant changes to **New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (NJIB)** program funding. The hearings are scheduled for **Oct. 12** and **Oct. 16**. The AEA is also seeking input from members.

These changes stem from inadequate funds to finance Drinking Water projects that are anticipated to be ready for funding in 2019 and 2020.

The NJIB announced this week that it would make changes to its **Drinking Water SRF** program, including:

- Lead service line projects would still be funded, but in priority order according to the ranking system.
- Funding of all drinking water projects would take place in the project priority order, not readiness to proceed.
- Modifications to the loan rates for systems that do not meet the affordability criteria in the IUP.
- Elimination of the 100% principal forgiveness asset management set-aside program for small drinking water systems.

Note that only drinking water projects are affected by these changes, not Clean Water SRF projects. In addition, if you have already received drinking water funding your project will not be affected by these proposed changes.

However, applicants for drinking water projects that have not reached the decision points above **ARE** affected by the changes.

To learn more about these proposed changes, the DEP intends to hold additional information sessions. Information about these sessions will be posted on the NJDEP website at <https://nj.gov/dep/dwq/cwpl.htm> and https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dws_loans.html

The **AEA Water Committee** is expected to make recommendations for AEA comments on these changes, and will be discussing said recommendations at its **Oct. 11 meeting**, to be held at the Jackson Township MUA at 10am. Anyone wishing to attend or who wants more information is welcome to contact Peggy, Karen or a committee chair Dave Harpell.

The **Oct. 12 hearing** is set for 1pm at the NJDEP Public Hearing Room, 401 E. State Street, Trenton.

The **Oct. 16 hearing** is scheduled for 9:30am at the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, 1085 Raymond Blvd., 17 th Floor (One Newark Center), Newark.

The public may also submit written comments by October 24.

For a full FAQ of these proposed changes, [review this PDF file.](#)

Thank You for Info on Tours

AEA thanks all those who completed our brief survey on the offering of tours. Some systems schedule them often, sometimes less often. Some do more tours for older students, some for elementary age children. There are many approaches.

The bottom line is tours are a terrific way to help your community understand what you do everyday to protect their environment and their health.

One Call Question

Several AEA members have noticed what appears to be stepped up enforcement activity on mark-outs under the One Call rule. If your system has recently received an NOV or been involved with the NJ Board of Public Utilities on this matter, please [contact Peggy](#). We would like to understand the picture as it affects our members.

Commissioners (and Exec Directors) Invited to Supper

AEA is again planning supper events for commissioners. Commissioners are invited to engage, network, share and learn. Bring your executive directors along. The event is free for commissioners of AEA member authorities.



Choose one: **Wednesday, Oct. 10**, 2018 at 6 p.m. at Hanover Sewerage Authority, 40 Troy Road, Whippany or **Thursday, Oct. 18**, 2018 at 6 p.m. at Atlantic County Utilities Authority, 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234.

This is an informal event starting with a panel discussion, followed by supper and open discussion among attendees. These suppers are great for veteran commissioners as well as recent appointees.

Commissioners meet and share insights and challenges. Registration is open. Materials will be sent to authorities and posted on the AEA website: www.aeanj.org. Call 609-584-1877 for more information. Registration is required.

Help your Community 'Imagine a Day without Water'

Some communities in America already know how impossible it is to try to go a day without our most precious resource: Water. But many Americans take water for granted every day. Imagine a Day Without Water 2018 is the fourth annual day to raise awareness and educate

America about the value of water.

This year's event will be October 10. Members are encouraged to open their facilities for tours, utilize social media to spread the word, issue proclamations, host forums, and more.

Last year, over 750 organizations came together. Will you join us this year?

AEA [has provided materials](#) to member organizations to assist with their participation in this awareness-focused event. If you and your AEA member organization would like to participate, contact us at 609-584-1877 or email us at info@aeanj.org.

[Get your Day Without Water materials here](#)

Save the Date!

Join AEA at our **November's Annual Conference** Nov. 13-14 at Bally's in Atlantic City

Get on board for new ideas, new connections and renewed energy for all the challenges you face in your work. Speakers will cover cost-effective planning, risk management and best employment practices, emerging technology, and compliance with new laws and regulations. (We have invited NJDEP Commissioner Catherine McCabe, too!)

Also planned is a pre-conference breakfast for local officials focused on communicating vital messages on water and recycling. More info and registration material coming soon!

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](#)

- Showdown: Scientists Compare Tap To Bottle, Filter
- Vernon VFW may pull up stakes over sewer fee dispute
- Baltimore council considering charter amendment to ban sale of city water system
- Bordentown City offers free lead testing
- State Goes After Polluters For Cleanup Costs

More water, water, wastewater, solid waste and recycling news at AEANJ.ORG

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