President Trump Highlights Infrastructure Issues in Inaugural Speech (WashTimes).

New White House Homepage Highlights Repeal of EPA WOTUS Rule: "President Trump is committed to eliminating harmful and unnecessary policies such as the Climate Action Plan and the Waters of the U.S. rule (White House)."

Women's Protest Marches Include Focus on Environment (more).

Rural Water Policy Reader Defends President Trump: One commentator from Louisiana responded to last week's edition with the following: "Really do not appreciate the negative Trump stories. If we want to hear Trump bashing we can just tune in to the mainstream media." We appreciate the feedback and are always eager to circulate comments.

New York Post, "How Trump Made Small-town America Matter Again (NYPost)."

"EPA Has Made Life Hard for Too Many Americans and That's About to Change (Chairman/Senator Barrasso, WY)."

Kansas Senator Raises Small Community Compliance Struggles During EPA Confirmation Hearing (video).

Video Summary of New EPA Chief's Senate Confirmation Hearing from PBS Newshour (PBS).

**New Nationwide Permits**: On January 6, 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) issued its 2017 Nationwide Permits (NWPs) for work in streams and wetlands under Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), replacing the 2012 NWPs that expire on March 18, 2017 (more).

New Administration Said to Push "Deep Cuts" for EPA: President-elect Donald Trump is said to be considering significant EPA budget cuts in his first proposed federal spending plan that will rely on proposals that call for cutting more than half of the agency's current budget by eliminating or slashing a range of its climate, enforcement, vehicle, fuel and other programs (The Hill). The continuing resolution maintains the agency's current funding level of \$8.14 billion through this spring.

Toledo's Water Utility May have to Regionalize to Deal with Extensive Backlog of Delayed Repairs that Played a Key Role in the City's

Struggle with Algae (Wateronline).

**EPA New Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) Website Features Improved Drinking Water System** 

**Searching** (EPA): ECHO provides Public Water System compliance and enforcement data in its facility searches. Enhanced features make it easier to search for violations by specific contaminants and to identify the newest violations. ECHO also now offers a capability to search for lead and copper action level exceedances.

How Mormon Principles and Grassroots Ideals Saved Utah (Politico).

Study Says Farm Wells Result in Parkinson's Disease (Scientific America).

Ontario to Increase Fees on Bottled Water Companies over 100 Fold (more).

City of Tyler (TX), Fined by EPA, says EPA Targeting Cities as a Revenue Scheme (more).

In Key Largo (FL), Three Utility Works Were Killed After Being Overcome by Poisonous Fumes in a Manhole (<u>Yahoo</u>).

Brookhaven (MS) Detects E. Coli in Water (news).

## **National Rural Water Association**

 $\label{lem:contact:Mike Keegan, Policy Analyst < $$ \end{substant} $$ \end{substant} $$ (Washington, DC)$