

## Rural Water Policy Advisory [9/18/2017]

**NRWA's WaterPro Conference Starts Monday in Reno** ([WaterPro](#)).

**Florida Rural Water Association's Irma Recovery Efforts** ([FRWA](#)).

**U.S. House of Representatives Votes to Slash EPA Funding:** On Thursday, the House passed its version of the EPA fiscal year 2018 spending bill which includes \$7.5 billion for the EPA, \$534 million below fiscal year 2017 enacted levels. The House also slashed federal accounts on studying climate change.

**Repeat Wyoming Best Tasting Water Winner Makes News** ([news](#)).

**President Trump's Top Water Office to Appear Before Senate This Week:** On Wednesday, the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee plans to hear from David Ross, the president's nominee for EPA's Assistant Administrator for Water. Mr. Ross currently serves as Wisconsin assistant attorney. "His nomination is receiving high accolades from environmental leaders across the country ([EPA](#))."

**EPA Seeks Comments on Approach to Regulating Perchlorate in Drinking Water:** EPA is preparing for the second peer review of its novel scientific approach for proposing a standard for perchlorate. The action is unlikely to help ensure the agency meets a court-ordered deadline for completing its review ([EPA](#)).

**Pennsylvania Proposes New Fees for State Safe Drinking Water Staff:** Under the proposal, new annual fees would be instituted for all public water systems based on the number of people they serve. The proceeds of the fees, once implemented, are expected to be approximately \$7.5 million per year, and would go to the Safe Drinking Water Program.

**Ninety Four Percent Contamination Rate of Plastic Fibers Found in U.S. Tap Water** ([USA Today](#)).

**Section 1926(b) Protection Prevents Oklahoma Rural Water District from Having Service Annexed by Growing City** ([news](#)).

**Texas Section 1926(b) Case Makes New Law in Federal Appeals Court Ruling:** In August, the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court held that the Green Valley Special Utility District is entitled to go forward on its injunction to prohibit the City from encroaching on its "sewer" system because the district obtained a loan from USDA to fund its "water" service ([ruling](#)). The appeals court reversed the trial court which dismissed the district's suit holding that section 1926(b) applied only to the system for which the loan was made (water), not the property used to secure the loan (water and sewer system).