

## Rural Water Policy Advisory [10/1/2018]

### **NRWA Regulatory Committee Chairman Presses EPA on Relief for DBP Violations' Public Notices:**

Last week's NRWA annual WaterPro conference in Fort Worth featured a session dedicated to EPA initiatives with three top EPA water officials making presentations (report from Kansas Rural Water Association). *"After the presenters were finished, the room was opened up for questions. NRWA's Regulatory Committee Chairman Paul Fulgham (Rural Water Association of Utah) asked if EPA had given further consideration to allowing water systems to distribute Tier 2 Public Notification (PN) electronically and also if EPA will consider "softening" the required language regarding health effects in public notices. Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water, Lee Forsgren stated that the EPA will definitely work with the NRWA to make electronic notification an option for Tier 2 PN. Deputy Director for the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Jennifer McLain, stated that the only way the required language could be changed in PN is through changing the regulations and that is a long and difficult process. At this point the session concluded."* NRWA will be following up on Fulgham's efforts with EPA and all the U.S. Senators who have been helping with this effort.

### **President Signs Bill to Extend End of Fiscal Year to December 7, Avoiding Any Possible Government Shutdown Until After November Elections ([Gov. Exec.](#))**

**Regulatory Trends at NRWA Annual Conference:** After a debrief on the comments raised by members at last week's annual conference, the consensus was that NPDES compliance costs resulting from new nutrient levels for total maximum daily load implementation was the priority concern. NRWA will be advancing awareness of this concern within EPA.

**City to Abandon Public Drinking Water System to Avoid EPA Regulation:** Dalton (WI) will abandon its public water service. Property owners will have to dig private wells. "We will be shutting off the water on Monday," said Janel Nickel, president of the Dalton Sanitary District ([Channel3000 News](#)).

**The Idaho Rural Water Association Awarded \$1.4 Million Federal Grant to Build a Workforce Training Center:** The grant was announced by the U.S. Department of Commerce on Thursday and it is estimated the project could help create or retain 550 jobs ([AP News](#)).

**USDA Rural Utilities Service has \$163,475,000 Grant Funds Available for Water Systems Impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands ([USDA](#)).**

**Lawrence County, Alabama PFAS Drinking Water Tragedy:** Former Alabama Crimson Tide linebacker is stuck in his bed with a number of ailments; two years of do not drink warnings; hundreds pursuing litigation; majority of the county's 33,000 residents survive off bottled water; and resident says she and her daughter both have a blood clotting disorder - mother died of cancer, which she thinks is connected to the contaminated water ([WHNT News](#)).

**Cornell University Finds Method for Rapid Test of E. Coli ([Forbes](#)).**

**Indiana Supreme Court Says City Can't Put a Rate Increase on Rural Water Utility that the City Did Not Impose on Its Customers Residing Within City Limits ([Times Herald](#)).**

**Three Rivers Filtration Plant Gets Positive Press for Entering "Best Tasting Water in Indiana" Contest ([Wane News](#)).**