

### Hurricane Harvey Epilogue:

- The Texas Rural Water Association dispatched five generators in the field last week and reported on Wednesday that after a couple of days in the Corpus Christi area visiting several systems and offering assistance, the field staff was heading toward Victoria where operations will be based at the Quail Creek Special Utility District. From there, Circuit Riders will be reaching out to systems in that area and to the north and east of Houston to see if there are any needs we can assist with. Generators were delivered to Cape Carancahua WSC (368 connections) and Nueces Water Control & Improvement District #4 (3880 connections). Holiday Beach Water Supply Corporation (WSC) (700 connections) requested assistance with leaks caused by power poles lifting and breaking the water lines. They requested a two-man crew with a machine to help repair lines and another two man crew to help with locating and turning off meters that are running to damaged homes along with materials to do the work as they do not have any overstock. TRWA's Rural Water Emergency Assistance Cooperative received many offers from non-impacted systems to provide manpower and equipment to systems in need. TRWA reported that water systems were better prepared for a major storm than they were 8-9 years ago.
- On Tuesday, the Louisiana Rural Water Association reported that Circuit Riders who were out helping locate leaks and water systems in the southwest part of the state were getting heavy rain with some flooding in low lying areas of Cameron, Vermillion and Calcasieu parishes - with mandatory evacuations in Cameron Parish. LRWA reported that utilities are holding their own and there had not be any major problems.
- The entire city of Beaumont has lost access to clean water after it lost power at its main pump station along the Neches River and from its secondary source of well water in an adjacent county ([PBS Newshour](#)).
- A Texas state agency issued a list of communities under boil order ([TCEQ](#)).

### Harvey Revives Calls for More EPA:

- **Superfund:** Houston has more than a dozen Superfund sites, many now flooded, with the risk that waters were stirring dangerous sediment ([APNews](#)). EPA lashes out at AP reporter by name in scathing press release over "incredibly misleading story ([EPA](#))."
- **Chemical Security Plans:** The top Democrat on the Senate environment committee scolded Trump's EPA for delaying a program meant to prevent incidents like Thursday's explosions at the Arkema chemical plant outside of Houston. Senator Carper suspects that the Arkema plant was lax in meeting its EPA-required risk planning requirements which may have resulted in the blasts ([Wash Examiner](#)).
- **Climate Change:** Rising air and ocean temperatures increase the risk that when hurricanes and tropical storms occur, they will bring with them a greater chance of extended rainfall and extensive flooding ([NRDC](#))
- **Community Right to Know:** Arkema, the company that owns the chemical plant on the verge of more explosions, is refusing to provide a chemical inventory and facility map to the public. The company's CEO said the company was balancing "the public's right to know and the public's right to be secure ([news](#))."
- **EPA Administrator Pruitt:** While being interviewed on Harvey, Pruitt said the cause and effect of hurricane and climate change conversation is not helping the people of Texas with clean drinking water ([Breitbart Radio](#)).

**Harvey Changes the Dynamic in Washington Regarding Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations:** Congress is expected to approve the first Harvey relief funds as soon as next week with more to follow. Influential House of Representatives Members are urging that Harvey aid not be attached to the debt-ceiling increase. Additionally, the President has lowered the temperature on a threat to veto a temporary Continuing Resolution lasting into December if that "temporary" measure does not include funding for the border wall. President Trump is set to convene congressional leaders at the White House on Sept. 6, but already House and Senate leaders are talking among themselves about what will be expected in the emergency supplemental bill.

**Man Caught on Tape Allegedly Poisoning Couple's Water Jugs** ([Fox News](#)).

**Five Year Old Dies from Swimming in Ocean Contaminated with Sewage** ([news](#)).

**Ten Year 1926(b) Battle Continues in Kansas:** The city of Eudora and Douglas County RWD No. 4 are negotiating a decade-long dispute over water service in southern parts of the city. The dispute dates back to 2007 when the city began providing water service to an annexed area south of Kansas Highway 10 which was already being served by RWD 4. In September 2016, U.S. District Judge Julie Robinson issued a summary judgment stating the city could secure service rights to customers within the areas annexed by the city. The current proposal by RWD 4 would establish a \$12,000-per-meter price for the city to buy the service rights for the homes within the city limits that were formerly in their district and create a boundary line to separate the two services ([news](#)).

**Environmentalists Say Texas Facility Fire Backs Need For Obama Risk Management Plans' (RMP) Rule:** Environmentalists say the fire at a Texas chemical facility caused by Hurricane Harvey reinforces the need for the

Obama-era rule strengthening EPA's facility accident prevention program with new requirements for hazard analysis and streamlined release of facility data. The Obama EPA's Jan. 13 final RMP rule sought to update the agency's Clinton-era RMP regulation with new requirements for facilities to conduct independent audits, analyze safer alternatives, and improve emergency response planning and streamline release of facility data to the public. NRWA urged EPA to withdraw the rule because *"it expands and increases the regulatory burden on local governments (NRWA Comments)."*

**Chemicals Spilled by an RV Near Open Hydrant Results in Do Not Drink Order in Moab ([news](#)).**

**Texas Court Nullifies the Obama Administration's Expansion of the Federal Overtime Rule ([news](#)).**

**Pittsburgh's Boil Order Caused by Bird and Animal Droppings on 20-year-old Reservoir Covers ([news](#)).**