

Rural Water Policy Advisory [12/10/2018]

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NRWA Representative Wilmer Melton Participates at EPA National Drinking Water Advisory Council



(NDWAC: Melton pictured second to the left next to Chairperson Carrie Lewis with Milwaukee Water Works)

The National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) convened at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) headquarters in Washington, DC on December 8-9 to receive briefings from the top EPA water officials and provide comments to the Agency. Melton was appointed to the Council in 2014. Melton is the Director of Public Works with the City of Kannapolis, NC, a National Director of NRWA and a Board Member of the North Carolina Rural Water Association.

The NDWAC panel is the federal advisory committee that supports and consults with the U.S. EPA in performing its responsibilities related to the national drinking water program. The Council was created by the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1974. NDWAC provides advice, information, and recommendations on matters related to activities, functions, policies, and regulations required by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

During the NDWAC meeting, the panel heard briefings from senior EPA officials on the following topics: revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule, status of the new Perchlorate Rule, EPA actions to address PFAS including evaluating the need for a Safe Drinking Water Act maximum contaminant level for PFOA and PFOS, EPA initiatives to improving compliance with “Water System Partnerships,” America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, etc. NRWA has commented on all of the EPA activities - see list below for NRWA comments:

- Revisions for the Lead and Copper Rule ([March 8, 2018](#))
- Development of the new Perchlorate Rule ([November 21, 2018](#))
- Evaluation of an SDWA MCL for PFAS ([November 21, 2018](#))
- Initiatives for Improving Compliance ([January 9, 2017](#))

- Water System Partnerships ([The Fletcher Principle, May 19, 2017](#))
- Guidance on America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 ([November 2018](#))

EPA officials making presentations to the Council included:

- The Honorable David Ross (Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water)
- Lee Forsgren (Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water)
- Peter Grevatt (Director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water)
- Jennifer McLain (Deputy Director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water)
- Eric Burneson (Director of the Standards and Risk Management Division)
- Anita Maria Thompkins (Director of the Drinking Water Protection Division)

[National Rural Water Association](#)

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***The National Rural Water Association** is the country's largest public drinking water and sanitation supply organization with over 30,000 members. Safe drinking water and sanitation are generally recognized as the most essential public health, public welfare, and civic necessities.*

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