

Rural Water Policy Advisory [8/6/2018]

Senate Adjourns for August Without Action on Rural Water-Friendly WRDA Bill: The water resources development bill (S. 2800) was moving toward quick passage in the Senate last week when one senator objected. Wyoming Rural Water is scheduled to meet with the bill's sponsor, Senator Barrasso (WY), over the break to thank him for his inclusion of all the [small and rural water community provisions](#).

MO Rural Water to the Rescue: A compromised water line has left nearly 2,000 people in Missouri without water. The Missouri Rural Water Association has been working since Wednesday to locate the issue in a water line ([KQ2 news](#)).

New EPA Administrator Tells U.S. Senate that President Told Him to Prioritize Clean Water ([1:07:30 in Senate hearing video](#)).

Large Water Utilities Warn EPA on PFAS Health Science: *"Whether EPA sets a standard for PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act or develops a health advisory and/or guidance, the agency needs to be transparent about the state of the science, the health impacts, available treatment, cost and the source(s) of the contamination,"* says the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) in its July 11 comments to EPA.

Power of An Association: Senate Passes EPA Funding Bill Increasing Rural Water Technical Assistance Funding: On Wednesday, the Senate passed their [version of the EPA appropriations bill](#) that increased the rural water technical assistance provisions from \$12.7 million to \$15 million.

New Environmental Working Group (EWG) Report on Trichloroethylene (TCE) in Drinking Water: Report finds over 300 water systems reporting TCE in 2015 ([EWG](#)).

Overdrafting Groundwater in California's Central Valley Causing Arsenic in the Drinking Water and Subsidence ([The Guardian](#)).

Toxic Red Tide Hits Florida ([NBC Video](#)).

DHS Unveils New Critical Infrastructure Center: On July 31, DHS announced the formation of the National Risk Management Center to enhance initiatives to protect critical infrastructure. In her announcement speech, Secretary Nielsen said, *"An attack on a single tech company, for instance, can rapidly spiral into a crisis affecting the financial sector, the energy grid, water systems, or the healthcare industry* ([DHS](#))."

Federal Judge Dismisses Michigan Governor from Class-action Suit Blaming Him for Flint: The lawsuit brought by Flint residents blames the governor for the decision in 2014 to pipe water from the Flint River instead of water provided by Detroit Water and Sewerage. Two state officials, two emergency managers of the city, and others were kept as defendants. The suit alleges the largely black city of Flint, Michigan, wasn't treated as well as a neighboring, mostly white county during a lead-tainted drinking water crisis ([Reuters](#)).

Alaska Town Reverts to Typewriters After Cyber Attack ([WashPost](#)).

National Rural Water Association

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