



WATERSC

Water Security Channel

A Service of WATERISAC

From the Editor

The Water Security Channel (WaterSC) is a free information and alert service designed to benefit drinking water and wastewater utilities. Any water utility member can register for free at www.WaterSC.org to become a WaterSC affiliate. All affiliates receive important alerts as well as our monthly e-newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this month's edition.

- Diane VanDe Hei, editor@waterisac.org
Executive Director/WaterISAC

The WaterSC is a free product of the WaterISAC. To learn more about the WaterISAC, or to subscribe, please visit www.WaterISAC.org.

WaterISAC And Federal HSIN-CS Collaborate To Improve Security Information Access For Water/Wastewater Utilities

WaterISAC and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials have taken the first steps to assure increased access to security information for drinking water and wastewater personnel in the future. DHS is working closely with WaterISAC to make its Homeland Security Information Network Critical Sector (HSIN-CS) accessible to all verified WaterISAC and WaterSC users.



HSIN-CS is an information-sharing portal designed to encourage communication between all critical infrastructure sectors and the Federal government. It is anticipated that WaterISAC will manage the HSIN-CS water sector content and provide the technological gateway through WaterISAC or WaterSC to the Federal system.

The water sector will be one of the first critical infrastructure sectors to implement HSIN-CS. The Federal system has undergone many changes since the Water Sector Coordinating Council conducted a pilot test two years ago. The newest version of HSIN-CS will be released in June of this year at which time work will begin to tailor it to address the unique needs of drinking water and wastewater utilities. A collaborative work group that includes WaterISAC analysts, DHS system developers, and WaterISAC users will be instrumental in moving the project forward.

Water Sector Works On Security Metrics

Future progress on water and wastewater security will be reported to DHS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) using a national performance measurement system now under development. The water Sector-Specific Plan (SSP) of the National Infrastructure Protection Plan requires the sector to develop such a system, and the work will be accomplished through a Critical Infrastructure Protection Advisory Council (CIPAC) work group.

CIPAC is a collaborative partnership between government and critical infrastructure owners and operators, and its metrics work group is charged with developing a set of measurement criteria based on the water sector's goals and objectives as outlined in the SSP. This will include determining how to track measures, investigating how to structure reporting, and deciding who will collect information and how it will be

protected. The reporting system will be voluntary. Utility-specific information will not be distributed to DHS or EPA.

The first meeting of the CIPAC measures work group will be held March 13-14 in Washington, D.C., and the group anticipates having a completed performance measurement system developed by late August.

“How To” Webcast Will Address WARN Development

Learn how to set up a Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN) in your state by participating in *Utilities Helping Utilities: Developing a Mutual Aid Response Network for Water and Wastewater Systems*, a free webcast scheduled for March 29, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. ET. Hosted by the American Water Works Association, the webcast will provide information on developing a WARN, which can be a low-cost, highly effective, all-hazards approach to preparing utilities for a local, regional, state-wide or national disaster.

Click on the button above to find out more about the WARN webcast.

The Water Security Channel ([WaterSC](#)), a service of the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC), electronically disseminates bulletins and advisories issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Phone: Toll Free 1-888-H2O-SC4U (426-7248)
E-mail: watersc-help@mail.watersc.org

These e-newsletters are designed to inform members of the water community, so please feel free to forward these to your friends.

For previously distributed e-newsletters, please visit www.watersc.org/enews.html
To unsubscribe please call 1-888-H2O-SC4U (426-7248).

1-888-H2O-SC4U (426-7248)

WATERSC