



WATERSC

Water Security Channel

A Service of WATERISAC

From the Editor

With this edition, WaterISAC's free e-newsletter has a new look and is now a regular feature of WaterSC (Water Security Channel), the free alert service provided by WaterISAC at www.WaterSC.org.

THIS MONTH: We provide an update on U.S. EPA's WaterSentinel pilot program. In addition, we introduce a new publication designed to help utilities integrate EPA's 14 features of active and effective water security programs into their security planning processes.

-Editor: Diane VanDe Hei, editor@waterisac.org

EPA Seeks To Expand WaterSentinel Pilot

WaterSentinel, the comprehensive contamination warning system currently being developed and piloted by U.S. EPA, would be expanded under the agency's FY07 budget request to include additional pilot cities.

WaterSentinel is designed to integrate information from contaminant-specific sampling and laboratory analysis, on-line water quality monitoring, public health surveillance, customer complaints, and physical security. In FY06, EPA asked Congress for \$44 million to fund multiple WaterSentinel pilots, but Congress instead allocated \$8.7 million to develop a single pilot. In its new request, EPA asked for an additional \$33 million to expand WaterSentinel pilots into four more cities.

The pilots would be used to prove the concept of an effective contamination warning system, to enable drinking water utilities of all sizes and characteristics to adopt similar systems in the near future if they choose to do so.



Effective Water Security Program Features

U.S. EPA's new booklet, *Active and Effective Water Security Programs*, takes the 14 features developed last year by the National Drinking Water Advisory Council's Water Security Working Group (WSWG) and organizes them for security program planning. The recommended features are summarized and categorized as organizational features, operational features, infrastructure features or external features.

According to the WSWG, the 14 features are broadly drawn to allow individual utilities to tailor security approaches to their specific circumstances. At the same time, the features are sufficiently important that they apply across the full range of utility conditions and should be addressed by all utilities.

The booklet can be ordered for free from EPA's Office of Water Resource Center by email via the linked button above or by telephone: (202) 566-1729. Request document # 817-K-06-001 (limited to one copy per person).

Did You Know...

...that to assist utilities in strengthening their current security programs, WaterISAC has identified guidance documents and tools available to subscribers that support each of the 14 program features that the National Drinking Water Advisory Council recommended to the U.S. EPA as most important to increasing security and most relevant to utility circumstances and operation conditions. This single document provides links that enable WaterISAC subscribers to easily access the resources maintained in the secure portal library.

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

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