



Online Water Security

Be informed. Be prepared.

From the Editor

Welcome to the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC) free e-newsletter. When planning for water utility emergencies and responding to physical or environmental threats, WaterISAC believes information may be the best defense. So, as an expansion of our online, subscriber-based service, we share useful information and ideas via our e-newsletter.

THIS MONTH: We consider the need to update Emergency Response Plans and spotlight resources available on the WaterISAC and from EPA to help utilities maintain their readiness. In addition, we provide a link to an important upcoming Water Environment Federation/EPA Water Sector Security Workshop.

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

IS IT TIME TO UPDATE YOUR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN?

It has been three years since the Bioterrorism Act of 2002 was signed into law, and water sector administrators are beginning to emphasize the importance of revisiting Emergency Response Plans (ERPs). At two recent Water Sector Security Workshops, water security experts, along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), strongly encouraged utilities to regularly review and update their vulnerability assessments and ERPs.

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Valuable resources to help utilities with this process, including a number of tools and guidance documents, are posted on the WaterISAC. The WaterISAC strives to be the most comprehensive, secure library of sensitive, for-official-use-only security tools and information, as well as publicly available security tools. The following examples are only a few of the many ERP aids available to subscribers on the WaterISAC that are not available on public websites:

- Access to an extensive database of information on chemical, biological and radiological agents
- Distribution System Security Primer for Water Utilities and other AwwaRF research publications
- WaterISAC Threat Estimates
- Emergency Sampling Kit Components

EPA has also compiled a host of useful documents that can be found on their security website under [Emergency Response Planning Tools and Guidance Documents](#). All of these EPA security documents are also on the WaterISAC. Examples of the available resources include:

- The Response Protocol Toolbox
- The Environmental Laboratory Compendium
- Emergency Response Plan Outline
- Tabletop Exercises for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems

EPA has also developed a document to help small systems. The *Guidance For Small and Medium Systems* document aids systems serving populations between 3,300 and 100,000.

WEF/EPA WATER SECTOR SECURITY WORKSHOP

The third and final Water Sector Security Workshop, presented by the Water Environment Federation through funding from EPA, is scheduled for July 6-8, 2005 in Chicago, Ill. The purpose of the workshop is to provide water and wastewater utilities and other key stakeholders with a forum to develop a list of trends and needs that can enhance overall security of the nation's water sector utilities. Water sector utilities interested in participating should click the blue button above for more information.

The WaterISAC (www.waterisac.org) is the only centralized, secure, online resource of security threats that solely serves America's drinking water and wastewater utilities. The

WaterISAC e-newsletter is a monthly electronic publication that highlights useful tips, case studies or analysis about water security.

P.S. Got questions, comments, or ideas for us?

Email editor@waterisac.org or call 1 866-H2OISAC (1 866-426-4722).



Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center

1620 I Street, NW, Suite 500 Washington, DC 20006

1-866-H2OISAC

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