

A New Regulation - America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018

Are you ready for new requirements applicable to owners and operators of community drinking water systems serving more than 3,300 persons?

AWIA (the Act) was signed into law on October 28, 2018, and is overseen by the EPA.

The Act requires community drinking water systems serving more than 3,300 persons to develop: (1) a risk and resilience assessment; and (2) an emergency response plan (ERP).

The submittal deadlines for the risk assessment and the ERP are summarized below.

Population Served	Initial Due Date
Risk and Resilience Assessment	
>= 100,000	03/31/20
50,000 - 99,999	12/31/20
3,301 – 49,999	6/30/21
Emergency Response Plan (ERP) ^{a, b}	
>= 100,000	09/30/20
50,000 - 99,999	06/30/21
3,301 – 49,999	12/31/21

^a ERPs must be certified within six months of submitting the risk and resilience assessment certification; dates shown assume the assessment is submitted on the final due date.

^b The ERP must be reviewed and recertified a minimum of every five years.

Risk and Resilience Assessment

This assessment analyzes the risk of manmade malevolent and naturally occurring threats to your facility's infrastructure, and existing resources for response actions.

The end product of the assessment is the calculation of a Utility Resilience Index (URI) (0% to 100%) The higher the score, the greater the capability of the facility to respond to and recover from an incident.

EPA recommends using their web-based Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool (VSAT), which calculates your facility's URI using a question and answer format, generates a report, and provides an on-line certification process that fulfills the requirements of the Act.

Emergency Response Plan (ERP)

The ERP describes the utility's strategies, resources, plans, and procedures to prepare for and respond to an incident (main break, water contamination, flooding, etc.).

The ERP must address:

- Strategies and resources to improve the resilience of the system;
- Plans and procedures for responding to a malevolent act or natural hazard;
- Actions, procedures, and equipment that can obviate or significantly reduce the impact of a malevolent act or natural hazard;
- Strategies to detect malevolent acts or natural hazards.

How can Duncklee & Dunham help you?

We work with many municipalities – large and small. We understand water treatment, distribution, and infrastructure. Duncklee & Dunham has helped clients assess, prepare for and respond to water supply threats, including implementing alternate water supply sources. Let us help you comply with the AWIA.

Contact us at: 919-858-9898

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