

Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Technical Work Group
February 2, 2023
Webex Webinar or In-person at Illinois EPA Headquarters

The Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board (Board) Technical Work Group was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. with the following Board members:

Jason Bauer, Assistant City Engineer, City of Aurora (present)
Andrea Cheng, Commissioner, City of Chicago (present)
Brad Cole, Executive Director, Illinois Municipal League (present)
Brian Cox, Plumbing and Water Quality Program Manager, IDPH (absent)
Joseph Healy, Business Manager, LiUNA Local 1092 (present)
Todd LaFountain, Water Division Manager, City of Springfield CWLP (present)
Jones Richmond, Business Representative, Plumbers Local 130 (present)
Kyle Saunders, Public Works Director, City of Rockford (present)
Eric Weiss, Water Director, City of Elgin (present)
Allison Swisher, Department of Public Utilities, City of Joliet (present)

Others attending (In-person):

Michael Brown, Bureau of Water, IEPA
Brad Frost, Office of Community Relations, IEPA
Jeff Guy, Office of Community Relations, IEPA
Finnegan McCurdy, Office of Community Relations, IEPA

Jeff Guy took a roll call of Board members present.

Brad Cole made a motion to approve the draft meeting minutes from the previous meeting. This motion was seconded by Joe Healy. The motion was carried with no objections.

Summary of Discussion:

Five agenda points were circulated prior to the meeting. Kyle Saunders started the discussion with the first agenda point: “list of technical difficulties currently being experienced with the implementation of the Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act (LSLRNA).” He reported a struggle with coordinating multiple contractors under multiple contracts. He also noted an issue with non-responsiveness of tenants, with a response rate of 40% in Rockford.

Andrea Cheng reported an issue with privately owned homes and buildings such as townhouses in Chicago. In some cases, she has found that the pipes connected to privately owned water mains are damaged. If the contractors are to replace the lines, it may cause the water main to fail. Since these water mains are privately owned, there are not enough funds to replace the water main. Jason Bauer has also encountered this problem.

Kyle Saunders asked what would happen if a utility company hit a service line, damaged it, and a full replacement of the line was needed. Andrea Cheng found that sending out their own utility crew to replace the line and back charging the original utility company was effective.

Jason Bauer asked what should be done when a home or property owner initiates a repair. Would the owner pay for it? Would it trigger a full replacement?

Jason Bauer also posed a scenario where an owner rejects a line replacement and goes on to sell the home. Brad Cole suggested it would be put in the homeowner's disclosure. Michael Brown said he will check with Illinois EPA's legal department, though the waiver states that the homeowner must disclose this at the time of sale.

Andrea Cheng asked about landlord refusal to replace the lines. She wanted to know how to police the filters provided to these landlords to prove they have given the filters to their tenants. Michael Brown noted that this information would go into the inventory/replacement plan so it would be public record.

Kyle Saunders moved on to the second agenda point: "identify potential concerns with labor capacity throughout the state to facilitate LSLR." Brad Cole asserted that the state would need to fund apprenticeships to promote and organize labor. Joseph Healy reported that training on lead service line replacements is underway. Cole suggested a list of qualified contractors and companies be made available to the board, which Joseph Healy and Jones Richmond agreed to provide.

Kyle Saunders posed the third agenda point: "current challenges with administrative processes (i.e., waivers, notifications, reporting, easements, etc.)" The Illinois Section of American Water Work has made information on the LSLR Act more digestible. Andrea Cheng questioned the appropriate amount of outreach.

Kyle Saunders moved on to the fourth agenda point: "proposed revisions to LSLRNA as currently written." Todd LaFountain raised the issue of the paperwork and replacement period. Brad Cole stated that it is most important to be succinct in the proposed revisions and that a specific time period should be clearly communicated. Brown states that the rules will be going to public comment in the near future.

Lastly, Kyle Saunders posed the fifth agenda point: "IDPH required partial lead service line replacement notifications." Jeff Guy read the associated document, which was attached to the [meeting agenda](#). There is an online form to notify IDPH of making emergency repairs.

The next Technical Work Group meeting is on February 16, 2023, at 1:00 P.M. The next Board meeting is on March 8, 2023.

There were no comments from the public.

Jeff Guy made a motion to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Brad Cole. The work group meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

The [meeting recording](#) and other [pertinent documents](#) are available on the Agency's [Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board webpage](#).