

Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2024

Webex Webinar

The Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board (Board) was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. Jeff Guy took a roll call of Board members present:

Joey Logan-Pugh, Chief, Bureau of Water, Illinois EPA (absent)
Africa, Associate Director, Illinois Department of Revenue (absent)
Jason Bauer, Assistant City Engineer, City of Aurora (present)
Dave Clark, Acting Public Works Director, City of Champaign (present)
Brad Cole, Executive Director, Illinois Municipal League (present)
Brian Cox, Plumbing and Water Quality Program Manager, Illinois Department of Public Health (absent)
Briana Parker, Associate Director, Elevate Energy (absent)
Joseph Healy, Business Manager, LiUNA Local 1092 (present)
Paul Hinterlong, Councilman, City of Naperville (present)
Darrell King, Water Production Bureau Chief, City of Evanston (present)
Todd LaFountain, Water Division Manager, City of Springfield, City Water, Light and Power (present)
Brent O'Neill, Director of Engineering, Illinois American Water (absent)
Rick Powers, Director of Public Works, City of Peoria (absent)
Brian Rader, Public Works Superintendent, Village of Caseyville (absent)
Jones Richmond, Business Representative, Plumbers Local 130 (present)
Jamie Rott, Water Superintendent, City of Rockford (present)
Brenda Santoyo, Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (present)
Patrick Schwer, Director of Water Quality Surveillance, City of Chicago (absent)
Iyana Simba, Illinois Environmental Council (present)
Tom Somers, Director of Public Works, City of Herrin (present)
Allison Swisher, Department of Public Utilities, City of Joliet (present)
Ann Taylor, Mayor, City of Waukegan (absent)
Mike Pubentz, Interim Water Director, City of Elgin (present)
Justin Williams, Metropolitan Planning Council (present)

Also in attendance: Anna-Lisa Gonzales Castle, Elevate Energy

Illinois EPA staff in attendance:

Jeff Guy, Illinois EPA Office of Community Relations (moderator)
Adam Nutt, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Tatum DeMay, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Gary Bingenheimer, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Nidhan Singh, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Brad Frost, Illinois EPA Office of Community Relations
Sarah Brubaker, Illinois EPA Office of Community Relations

Summary of Discussion

Adam Nutt provided an update regarding inventory and replacement plan submittals. Inventories include 1,871 that were due, and the Illinois EPA received 1,600 of those and is currently in the review process. 1,062 are reviewed and 455 are approved. The non-approved inventories are issued a letter to correct deficiencies/resubmit. Replacement plans have not been reviewed yet. Totals will be posted on the Illinois EPA website.

Nidhan Singh provided an update on the lead service line inventory grants – currently in round 4 with a little over 6 million dollars left to spend on inventory grants. There is no application deadline for round 4, which will be kept open until all funds are expended. Federal funds are used to provide 10 million dollars in lead service plan inventory grants for rounds 3 & 4. Round 3 concluded last year.

Brenda Santoyo asked when the review of inventories will be completed. Tatum DeMay stated that the reviews would be completed by the end of the year.

Darrell King raised a question regarding the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) as related to inventory/notification requirements in Illinois as compared to federal requirements. Adam Nutt clarified that the notice requirement is 30 days after the submittal of the initial inventory.

Tatum DeMay provided an overview of the LCRI and stated that there are a lot of different regulations for lead and copper including 17.12 (415 ILCS 5/17.12), the revised lead and copper rule that goes into effect on October 16, 2024, and the LCRI that was just announced; the Illinois EPA is evaluating how the LCRI will be implemented.

Adam Nutt provided a very brief overview of the LCRI including the main changes such as inventory issues, replacement plans, deadlines, outreach, filter requirements, trigger/action levels, plumbing, sample collection/monitoring, definitions (e.g., community water supplies), and lead health effects information. Adam stated that there are a lot of detailed changes that will be covered during the next meeting once the LCRI is fully reviewed.

Justin Williams asked for clarification regarding the finalization of the LSRI. Tatum DeMay stated that when the LCRI is published in the federal register, there is three years before we have to start enforcing the LCRI, so in the interim, the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) will still be in effect. Adam Nutt stated that a written summary will eventually be made available.

Darrell King asked about the language in the LSRI regarding testing and when the timeline will start, and Adam Nutt clarified that LCRI requirements will start three years after it is published in the federal register.

Mila Marshall, Sierra Club, (public attendee), asked about Illinois EPA's consideration of the clean water workforce bill, and Tatum DeMay stated that this is handled by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Mila Marshall asked for clarification, and Gary Bingenheimer said that the topic could be discussed during the next meeting.

Ruth Kerzee, public attendee, asked about notification, changes, trigger/action levels. Adam Nutt stated that the LSRI will be followed once it goes into effect – including the stricter timelines – and that the LSRI will need to be further reviewed before a definite answer can be made.

Paul Hinterlong briefly mentioned a recent article regarding lead service line replacements including the timeframe (10 years), action levels, and grants. Gary Bingenheimer provided clarification and stated that none of the money in those press releases is new money; it's already money that was in the bill.

Sarah, public attendee, asked if the Illinois EPA had plans regarding non-compliance with deadlines/reporting. Tatum DeMay stated that the Illinois EPA is working to finalize the enforcement strategy for non-compliant water systems with respect to the deadlines.

Ruth Kerzee, public attendee, asked about the three-year and 10-year timelines for implementation of the LCRI. Adam Nutt clarified that the 10-year timeline starts in three years (around 2027).

There were no additional public comments or comments from the Board. Jeff Guy mentioned training requirements for the Board and stated that 2025 meetings will be scheduled at the beginning of 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m. The meeting recording and other pertinent documents are available on the Illinois EPA [Lead Service Line Replacement Act Advisory Board webpage](#).