

Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2026

Webex Webinar

The Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board (Board) meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Jeff Guy, Illinois EPA moderator, who confirmed a quorum and proceeded with the roll call as follows:

Joey Logan-Pugh (Chair), Chief, Bureau of Water, Illinois EPA (present)
Jason Bauer, Assistant City Engineer, City of Aurora (absent)
Deborah Carroll, University of Illinois at Chicago (present)
Caroline Pakenham, Elevate Energy (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, IDPH (present)
Joseph Healy, Business Manager, LiUNA Local 1092 (present)
Paul Hinterlong, Councilman, City of Naperville (present)
Todd LaFountain, Water Division Manager, City of Springfield, CWLP (present)
John Killips, Director of Engineering, Illinois American Water (absent)
Rick Powers, Director of Public Works, City of Peoria (absent)
Mike Pubentz, Interim Water Director, City of Elgin (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 (present)
Iyana Simba, Illinois Environmental Council (present)
Tom Somers, Director of Public Works, City of Herrin (absent)
Allison Swisher, Department of Public Utilities, City of Joliet (absent)
Ryan Wilson for Justin Williams, Metropolitan Planning Council (present)

The following Illinois EPA staff members were present for the meeting:

Jeff Guy, Illinois EPA Office of Community Relations (moderator)
Matthew Maas, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Adam Nutt, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Nidhan Singh, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Bill Jankousky, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Tatum DeMay, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Racheal Armstrong, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water
Steve Ressel, Illinois EPA Bureau of Water

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the April 8, 2026 meeting minutes was made by Brad Cole and seconded by Jamie Rott. The motion passed unanimously.

Illinois EPA Staff Introductions

Illinois EPA staff introduced themselves, noting their roles within the Bureau of Water and program support areas.

State Revolving Fund (SRF) Lead Service Line Replacement Funding Update (Nidhan Singh)

Nidhan Singh provided an overview of FY2026 SRF lead service line replacement activity, including funding totals, the FY2027 funding forecast, the principal forgiveness and 0% loan structure, and remaining Lead Service Line Inventory Grant Program funding.

Board members asked several questions related to funding availability and program structure. Brad Cole asked whether communities should continue to apply for remaining grant funds and whether applications would carry forward if funds were exhausted. Paul Hinterlong asked that the presentation materials be emailed to the Board. Iyana Simba inquired about long-term funding stability once Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) allocations conclude. Joe Healy asked how many years of BIL-supported funding remain. Illinois EPA staff responded to each question, confirming that applications remain active, additional funding may be added, and one remaining BIL year is expected.

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) and Inventory Update (Adam Nutt)

Adam Nutt summarized statewide inventory totals, replacement pool calculations under LCRR, upcoming compliance deadlines, and available extensions. He noted concerns raised by systems about workforce and material shortages as replacement rates increase.

Members discussed contractor availability, permitting practices, and compliance implications. Ryan Wilson noted that several communities have received few bids on replacement projects. Paul Hinterlong raised concerns about unlicensed individuals performing work and limited enforcement resources. Joe Healy and Jones Richmond reported strong contractor availability in the Chicago area. Brian Cox emphasized the importance of reporting unlicensed work and noted rising apprentice numbers statewide. Jamie Rott expressed concern about future material and labor shortages. Caroline Pakenham noted that smaller contractors sometimes miss municipal RFP postings. Iyana Simba requested clarification on the 2031 cumulative replacement-rate compliance review and SRF funding sources. Illinois EPA staff provided additional explanation of compliance timelines and federal funding proportions.

LeadCare Illinois Program Update

Caroline Pakenham provided an update on the LeadCare Illinois program, which offers free lead-in-water testing and mitigation reimbursement, including lead service line replacement for childcare facilities and schools. The Board did not raise additional questions following the update.

2026 Required Board Trainings

Jeff reminded Board members to complete all required annual State trainings and submit certificates to Gina Russell.

Public Comment

No public comments were received.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Healy and seconded by Paul Hinterlong. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:35 p.m.

The meeting recording and related documents are available on the Illinois EPA Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board webpage.