



ARKANSAS DRINKING WATER UPDATE

Water Systems Rate State Program Positively

Jeff Stone, P.E., Engineer Supervisor

As outlined in the previous issue of the *Arkansas Drinking Water Update*, the Engineering Section conducted a quality of service survey of Public Water Systems (PWSs) during the months of January and February, 2006. The survey focused on determining the satisfaction levels relating to the services and regulatory functions that the Engineering Section provides, and to determine problem areas that need to be addressed. The survey was mailed to the 575 managers of community public water systems in Arkansas and 307 surveys were returned, constituting a 53% response rate which is considered excellent for such questionnaires. The program functions requested to be rated were plan review, compliance monitoring, consumer confidence reports, bacteriological lab, sanitary surveys, technical assistance, personnel, and certification

The results of the survey were assembled into a report and are available at the website: www.healthyarkansas.com/eng/pdf/OOSSurvey2006.pdf.

The responses in the survey were consistently positive with regards to satisfaction levels and, just as importantly, the criticisms offered were uniformly constructive in nature. In general, respondents indicated their approval of the "Technical Assistance" approach to the Safe Drinking Water Act versus an "Enforcement" approach. Even in areas that are relatively unpopular, such as

Location of Survey Responders

Northwest	22%
Northeast	20%
Southeast	14%
Southwest	20%
Central	24%

the Consumer Confidence Reports, respondents indicated approval of the assistance given in that area. The Engineering Section considers this survey of water managers to be a success in regards to gaining important input from the water managers.

Respondents made many comments on a number of different

program functions. While it is difficult to summarize them into themes, it appears that making the bacteriological laboratory services more user friendly was one theme. Another was that water managers perceive the plan review function to be an important tool in protecting their water systems from inappropriate additions or modifications. Most comments were complimentary, however, all comments, whether positive or negative, were included in the report. The comments will be categorized according to program areas, and

Source Type of Survey Responders

Surface Water	17%
Ground Water	49%
Purchased Surface Water	26%
Purchased Ground Water	7%

responses prepared for each comment or group of comments. The Engineering Section management was very pleased with the high response rate and wishes to thank all the managers who took the time and effort to fill out the survey and return it. The survey results and comments are currently being reviewed and follow-up responses and actions will be listed in this publication and posted on the Engineering Section's website.

The ratings for each of the program functions are listed on page 4.

Plentiful Spring Rains Fill Water Reservoirs

Above normal rainfall in April and early May allowed most Arkansas drinking water reservoirs to be either refilled or to significantly raise their low levels. Rainfall in April was 1 to 3 inches above normal depending on the area of the state.

The year 2006 began with a large portion of the state under "Exceptional" drought conditions as defined by the National Weather Service. Unusually dry conditions in the last half of 2005, and in early 2006, had resulted in several water systems facing critically low reservoir levels. Fort Smith, Conway, and Perryville each had to tap alternate surface sources in order to preserve existing reservoirs or to keep from running out of water. The City of Fort Smith began pumping in early spring from lower Lee Creek, as did the City of Conway from Cadron Creek. Both are streams connected to the Arkansas River. Perryville utilized Fourche LaFave River as an alternate supply.

A survey of community public water systems in the state concerning the drought by the Engineering Section in January found about six percent of the 300 responding systems were seriously or critically affected by the drought. Most of those had implemented voluntary conservation requests or

See Rain page 2

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Among the special events at the AWW&WEA conference was a Sunday concert by the group Diamond Rio.

AWW&WEA Celebrates 75th Anniversary

The Arkansas Water Works & Water Environment Association celebrated its 75th anniversary at its annual four day conference in Hot Springs on April 30 – May 3. In recognition of the milestone, several special events were incorporated into the conference which drew 2772 registrants, a record attendance.

Chaired by John Jarratt of the Little Rock Wastewater Utility, new additions this year included a Sunday concert by the musical group Diamond Rio, an opening session presentation by motivational speaker Paul Vitale, and a ROADeo equipment competition for backhoe and large truck operators. The conference concluded with its traditional golf tournament on the final day.

Not to be lost in the entertainment and recreation were two days of 12 concurrent technical and professional sessions for the attendees, as well as an exhibit hall with over 120 companies and organizations represented. Cosponsors of the conference were the Arkansas Department of Health & Human Services, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Southwest Section – American Water Works Association, Arkansas Water Environment Association, the University of Arkansas, and Arkansas State University.

Two persons were inducted at the conference into the Glen T. Kellogg Water & Wastewater Hall of Fame - Bruno Kirsch, Jr., and a posthumous award to Ron Brown. Kirsch is currently the Chief Operating Officer for Central Arkansas Water, and from 1979 to 1986 was the state drinking water program manager at the Department of Health. Brown was the Assistant Finance Director for Central Arkansas Water.

Beaver Water District was selected as the best tasting water by a panel of tasters. The Water Works Outstanding Achievement Award for systems greater than 5000 population went to Randy Easley of Fort Smith. The same award for systems less than 5000 population went to Robert Poulson of Russellville Water Pipeline Suburban Improvement District No. 2. Systems receiving special recognition awards were North Carbon City, Bono, Horseshoe Bend, Dierks, and Gravette.

The exhibit hall contained a history museum with memorabilia from past conferences, plaques of former Kellogg inductees, and a special video about the organization.

Rain *continued from page 1*

mandatory restrictions to reduce water demands.

As of mid May, only a few water systems were still on conservation measures. In spite of the abundant rainfall, soil moisture was still below normal. The National Weather Service classified most of the state as under Mild or Moderate drought conditions.

Additional information on the impact of the spring rains is shown on page 3.

While surface water supplies in the state are recovering, the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission reported in early May that aquifer levels in the eastern part of the state had dropped a greater than normal amount due to the drought conditions in 2005 and continued heavy pumping from alluvial aquifers. The Commission measures water levels in the spring of each year after aquifers have had a chance to recharge, and again in the fall after the peak of irrigation demand. Todd Fugitt with the Commission reported that wells in 26 eastern counties had dropped by an average of 4.4 feet over the course of 2005, as compared to a normal decline of 3.3 feet.

The Commission has promoted a greater reliance on surface water for irrigation in order to mitigate aquifer declines. One of the largest such efforts is the Grand Prairie Irrigation Project. The project, which was recently cleared by the Arkansas Supreme Court (See News of Note on page 7), is due to be completed in 2011.

ARKANSAS DRINKING WATER

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Impact of Spring Rains



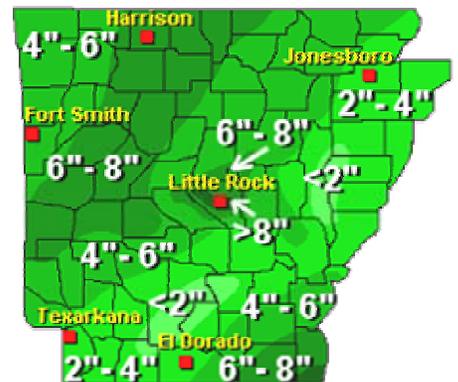
The City of Perryville's water intake is shown in subsequent photos taken in January (left) and May (right).



Brewer Lake, the water supply for Conway Corporation, had a 10 foot rise in its water level from March to mid-May.

Typical Lake Level Increases – March 1 to May 15

Beaver Lake	9 ft	Water source for Beaver Water District, Benton – Washington Regional Public Water Authority, Carroll Boone Water District, and Madison County Regional Water
Greers Ferry Lake	11 ft	Water source for Clinton, Heber Springs, and Community Water System
Norfolk Lake	14 ft	Water source for Mountain Home
Bull Shoals Lake	10 ft	Water source for Marion County Regional Water District,



April Rainfall

Ratings by Public Water Systems of State Program Functions

Continued from page 1

Plan Review

- Rate the quality of the plan review function.
66% Good, 31% Adequate, 3% Poor.
- Rate the importance of the plan review function to helping you meet your goal of operating and maintaining a safe public water system.
68% Very Important, 28% Moderate, 5% Minor.
- Rate the timeliness of the plan review function.
21% Quick, 74% Adequate, 5% Slow.
- Rate the competence of the plan review engineers.
67% Knowledgeable, 32% Adequate, 1% Inadequate
- Rate the plan review engineers familiarity with your system and its needs and problems.
42% Knowledgeable, 53% Adequate, 5% Inadequate

Compliance Monitoring

- Rate the quality of the compliance sampling and analysis function.
75% Good, 23% Adequate, 2% Unsatisfactory
- Rate the importance of the compliance sampling function to helping you meet your goal of operating and maintaining a safe public water system.
88% Very Important, 11% Moderate, 1% Minor
- Rate the demeanor and professionalism of the samplers that visit your water system.
69% High, 29% Adequate, 2% Low
- Rate the timeliness of the results from compliance sampling.
37% Fast, 58% Adequate, 5% Slow

Consumer Confidence Reports

- Rate the quality of the CCR assistance.
83% Good, 16% Adequate, 1% Unsatisfactory
- Rate the importance of the CCR assistance to helping you meet your goal of operating and maintaining a safe public water system.
60% Very Important, 29% Moderate, 11% Minor
- Rate the timeliness of the CCR assistance.
60% Fast, 39% Adequate, 1% Slow

Bacteriological Lab Support

- Rate the quality of the bacteriological laboratory service.
74% Good, 23% Adequate, 3% Unsatisfactory
- Rate the importance of the bacti lab service.
91% Very Important, 8% Moderate, 1% Minor
- Rate the timeliness of the results from the bacti lab.
45% Fast, 45% Adequate, 10% Slow
- Rate the helpfulness of the staff in the Engineering Section in assisting you in complying with the Total Coliform Rule requirements.
85% Very Helpful, 14% Somewhat, 2% Not Enough

Sanitary Surveys

- Rate the quality of the sanitary survey inspections.
80% Good, 19% Adequate, 1% Unsatisfactory

- Rate the importance of the sanitary survey inspections to helping you meet your goal of operating and maintaining a safe public water system.

69% Very Important, 27% Moderate, 4% Minor

- Rate the demeanor, professionalism, and competence of the inspectors that visit your system.
76% High, 22% Adequate, 2% Low
- How often has the sanitary survey report been useful to you?
21% Very Often, 65% Occasionally, 13% Rarely, 2% Never

Technical Assistance

- Rate the quality of the technical assistance provided.
73% Good, 22% Adequate, 5% Unsatisfactory
- Rate the importance of the technical assistance provided to helping you meet your goal of operating and maintaining a safe public water system.
79% Very Important, 19 Moderate, 2% Minor
- Rate the following of the personnel that provide technical assistance to your system.
 - Attitude: 67% High, 29% Adequate, 4% Low
 - Professionalism: 71% High, 25% Adequate, 3% Low
 - Politeness: 69% High, 29% Adequate, 2% Low
 - Competence: 71% High, 26% Adequate, 3% Low

Personnel

- Rate the competence of the staff relating to the Safe Drinking Water Act and the technical assistance provided.
74% Very Competent, 25% Adequate, 1% Not
- Rate the knowledge of the staff with regards to how the rules and regulations impact water system operations.
71% Very Knowledgeable, 28% Adequate, 1% Not
- Are the staff approachable when seeking information or assistance?
67% Very Approachable, 32% Adequate, 1% Not
- Do the staff conduct themselves in a polite, helpful, and professional manner?
83% Very, 13% Somewhat, 4% Adequate, 1% Not

Operator Certification

- Rate the application process for attaining a license.
66% Good, 31% Adequate, 3% Unsatisfactory
- Rate the renewal process for maintaining a license.
71% Good, 28% Adequate, 1% Unsatisfactory
- Rate the importance of mandatory training prior to sitting for an exam.
75% Very Important, 23% Helpful, 1% Minor, 1% Not
- Rate the following for the personnel comprising licensing and certification.
 - Attitude: 61% High, 31% Adequate, 7% Low
 - Professionalism: 68% High, 26% adequate, 5% Low
 - Politeness: 62% High, 31% Adequate, 7% Low
 - Competence: 68% High, 28% Adequate, 3% Low

River Valley District Proposes Changes for Extraordinary Resource Water Regs

The River Valley Regional Water District in Crawford County received approval in February from the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission on a petition to review the state's water quality standards regarding Extraordinary Resource Waters (ERW). River Valley has proposed modifying the language of Regulation No. 2 of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality that currently prohibits physical alterations of the habitat within an ERW. Such restrictions eliminate any possibility of constructing an impoundment on the stream.

River Valley desires to build a dam for water supply purposes on Lee Creek in Crawford County. Lee Creek is one of over 50 streams or lakes in Arkansas named as an ERW. River Valley's members consist of the current cities and water utilities within Van Buren County and who believe that a long term water supply for the area is needed.

Water quality standards for surface waters of the state are established under ADEQ's Regulation No. 2. An ERW is defined in the regulation as "a combination of the chemical, physical and biological characteristics of a water body and its watershed which is characterized by scenic beauty, aesthetics, scientific values, broad scope recreation potential and intangible social values."

River Valley's proposal would permit the alteration of the habitat for any ERW, provided five conditions are met.

- The alteration is requested by a public entity.
- The alteration is part of a proposal certified by the Natural Resources Commission to be in compliance with the State Water Plan.
- An environmental impact statement is prepared.
- Public notice about the alteration is published and comments invited.
- The PC&E Commission determines the benefits from the alteration justify the anticipated adverse effects.

The Commission's approval of River Valley's petition was against the

Joint Agency Initiative Signed on UST's

Roger Miller, Senior Geologist

The Engineering Section of the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services (ADHHS) signed in February a memorandum of agreement with the Regulated Storage Tanks Division of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to formally share data on underground storage tanks (UST's) in an effort to improve the protection of drinking water sources in the state.

ADEQ and ADHHS have a joint responsibility to minimize the potential for contamination of both surface and subsurface waters used as public drinking water supplies. Leaks and spills of petroleum hydrocarbons from underground and aboveground storage tanks represent a significant threat to source waters and, therefore, to public health. The MOA outlines the coordination efforts to be undertaken by each agency to protect the State's drinking water resources and establishes procedures for the exchange of information developed on storage tanks and source water protection areas.

Sharing of this type of information, previously conducted informally between DHHS and ADEQ as necessary, will now be accomplished according to provisions of the MOA that establish the frequency of data exchanges and identify inspection priorities to be applied by the ADEQ. Under the agreement, storage tanks located in source water protection areas will receive priority consideration for inspections and enforcement.

The joint initiative is the end result of a meeting with Source Water Protection and UST coordinators of EPA Region 6 hosted by ADEQ in October 2005. The Regional office's interest in the MOA was initiated by a series of meetings in Washington, D.C. between the directors of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water and the Office of Underground Storage Tanks at EPA's Headquarters several years earlier, to discuss the advantages of inter-program coordination to help meet the agency's strategic target of minimized risk to public health.

The Engineering Section's Source Water Protection staff will regularly provide ADEQ with Geographic Information System (GIS) data layers depicting public water sources and their associated Assessment Areas, delineated through the EPA-approved assessment process. The Source Water data will help ADEQ focus their mapping and inspection activities on affected source waters or source waters with the greatest potential for adverse impact from leaking storage tanks based on the delineated source protection areas.

For their part, ADEQ will provide ADHHS locational coordinates on registered storage tank systems, system specifics, reported leaking tank sites, and cleanup projects. ADEQ is investing significant resources to gather mapping-grade locational coordinates and other attributes about UST's across the state. This data will markedly improve the accuracy of GIS data maintained in the drinking water source protection program of the Engineering Section at ADHHS.

recommendations of ADEQ's staff. The staff pointed out that the entire Regulation No. 2 was undergoing a triennial review and that the proposed changes by River Valley to the ERW section could be considered as part of that process. The Commission, however, voted it as a separate item to review. ADEQ has issued a statement countering the claims of River Valley for the necessity of the project.

ADEQ held four public hearings in March and April on the petition and invited public feedback. In one of the

hearings, an ADEQ official stated that the proposed modifications of the ERW standards, if approved by the PC&E Commission, must also be reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency. The official went on to give the opinion that the proposed modifications would likely be rejected by EPA as a violation of the Clean Water Act.

A copy of River Valley's petition can be found at ADEQ's website: www.adeq.state.ar.us/.

Organizations Sign Collaborative Agreement on Source Water Protection

Representatives from 14 organizations and agencies signed an agreement in February to improve their collaboration on source water protection for drinking water sources and watersheds. Among the organizations signing the agreement were the American Water Works Association, National Rural Water Association, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Association of Counties, and the Trust for Public Lands.

Stating that “the time to act is now”, the agreement emphasizes that the source water assessments required for public water systems under the Safe Drinking Water Act should be only a starting point in protecting water supplies, and that the importance of drinking water has been made abundantly clear to the public because of population growth, droughts, and natural disasters. That realization by the public is an opportunity to protect water sources for generations to come, according to the agreement.

Each of the signers pledged to share information on best management practices; to develop, along with stakeholders, recommendations on protecting drinking water sources; and to distribute that information to organization members, stakeholders, and the media.

Specific actions recommended in the agreement are to prevent contaminants from urban and agricultural activities from reaching water supplies; promote development patterns that limit threats to surface water or groundwater recharge areas; match land uses with locations least likely to affect water sources; and preserve land needed to protect water quality and future sources of supply. The document calls for policy makers, agricultural interests, and the business community to integrate drinking water protection into all land use planning and stewardship activities.

A copy of the agreement can be downloaded from the EPA website www.epa.gov/safewater/protect.html.

USGS National Report Finds Low Levels of VOCs in Groundwater and Water Wells

The U.S. Geological Survey released a summary report in April examining the prevalence of volatile organic chemicals in ground water and drinking water supply wells across the nation. The study collected untreated samples from 3500 randomly selected wells distributed nationwide and which represented 98 aquifers. Among the major findings of the report were that one or more of the 55 tested VOCs were detected in 90 of the aquifers studied. In spite of that widespread detection, most of the wells sampled (80 percent) had no VOC detections above a threshold of 0.2 parts per billion. The assessment was meant to provide a national perspective on VOC occurrence in groundwater.

A separate analysis was conducted of water from domestic and public wells used for drinking water purposes. That review showed VOCs detected in 14 percent of domestic well samples and 26 percent of public well samples, but seldom at concentrations likely to affect human health. Less than 2 percent had concentrations greater than the federal drinking water standards.

The report’s senior author, John Zogorski, surmised that the reason VOCs were detected more frequently in public wells than in domestic wells was because of their larger withdrawal rates and their proximity to developed areas. He suggested a strong relation between VOCs in ground water and the percent of urban land use within a half-kilometer radius of the sampled well. Thirty-eight percent of the shallow wells sampled in residential and commercial areas contained at least one VOC compared to 11 percent of shallow wells in agricultural areas. Zogorski stated that it is likely that urban areas have more sources of VOC compared to other land use settings and that source protection programs were critical for effective management, particularly for urban wells.

VOCs include hundreds of compounds and are produced in large volumes for industrial, commercial, and agricultural applications. Some of the more common VOCs in use, as well as those detected in the study, include MTBE, an oxygenate added to gasoline to improve combustion and reduce air pollution; and the solvents trichloroethene (TCE) and perchloroethene (PCE). Fumigants such as EDB and DBCP which were banned in the U.S. over twenty years ago continue to persist in aquifers where the chemicals were heavily used, particularly California and Hawaii, and accounted for about 2 percent of VOC detections nationally.

However, the most frequently detected VOC in the study (7 percent of samples) was chloroform. Chloroform has many industrial uses, but it and other trihalomethanes are disinfection by-products which are also formed by the chlorination of water and wastewater, the disinfection of wells, and the use of bleach and other household cleaning products. Chloroform can persist in aquifers with relatively high dissolved oxygen concentrations and has a lower tendency to attach to soil and aquifer material. The report concluded that the recycling of treated water to artificially recharge groundwater, particularly in western states, appeared to be an important source for the presence of chloroform and deserved continued routine monitoring.

Details on the report, including a summary, can be found at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2006/3048/>.

NATIONAL

* Massachusetts became the first state in the nation to draft a monitoring and drinking water standard for perchlorate. The state's Department of Environmental Quality proposed in March a 2 ppb limit for both drinking water and for cleanup at waste contamination sites. Perchlorate is a chemical found in blasting agents, fireworks, military munitions and other manufacturing processes, and has been found to interfere with the functioning of the thyroid gland. While no federal standard regulating perchlorate currently exists, the EPA is studying that possibility. Testing in Massachusetts had found perchlorate above the standard at a dozen locations. Public hearings on the proposed standard were to be held in the state in April and May.

ARKANSAS

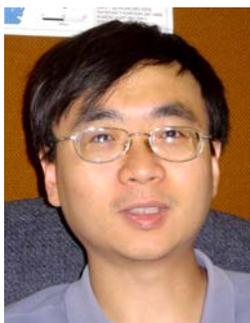
* The Arkansas Supreme Court in April agreed with a lower court's decision dismissing a lawsuit challenging the \$319 million Grand Prairie Irrigation Project. The lawsuit, filed by the Arkansas Wildlife Federation and the National Wildlife Federation, challenged the Arkansas Soil & Water Conservation Commission's jurisdiction over the project. The Supreme Court agreed that the lower court correctly determined that the Commission did not exceed its authority. The project is a planned systems of pumps, piping, and canals to bring White River water to 1000 Grand Prairie farmers in order

News of Note

to reduce the irrigation demand on area aquifers. Those same aquifers are also utilized as sources of drinking water.

ENGINEERING SECTION

Zhengwang Liu, PhD, has joined the Engineering Section as an Engineer



II. His primary responsibilities will be to assist with program development and implementation of the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. He will also

participate in the State's AWOP program activities, assist with SWTR plant evaluations and DBP technical assistance activities. Zhengyang, who is originally from China, received a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Arkansas where he also worked as a research associate. Prior to joining the Engineering Section, Zhengyang worked as a process engineer for US Rubber Corporation located near Houston, Texas.

Lonnea Shirey has joined the Engineering



Section as a District Engineer for southwest Arkansas. Her duties will include plan review, sanitary surveys, technical assistance, and operator training. She

holds a Chemical Engineering degree from Michigan Tech University and is registered as an Engineer Intern.

Jeremy Rowe has been hired as the Training Coordinator for the Engineering



Section. His duties will include the coordination and implementation of ADHHS compliance training, license exams, training review and

approval, and license renewal verification. Jeremy holds a bachelors degree in Biology and Biblical Studies and has nine years of experience in onsite wastewater as an Environmental Health Specialist for the Department of Health and as a Designated Representative.

Reminder for Postal Mail & Package Deliveries to ADHHS

If Sending:		Shipper	
		US Post Office	Delivery service such as UPS, FedEx, DHL
Correspondence, Engineering Plans, License applications, operations forms, PWS Service Fees, etc.	Send to	Engineering Section Division of Health, Slot H-37 AR Dept Health & Human Services P.O. Box 1437 Little Rock, AR 72203	Engineering Section Division of Health, Slot H-37 AR Dept Health & Human Services 4815 West Markham Little Rock, AR 72205
Bacteriological Samples	Send to	Public Health Lab Division of Health, Slot H-47 AR Dept Health & Human Services P.O. Box 8182 Little Rock, AR 72203	Public Health Lab Division of Health, Slot H-47 AR Dept Health & Human Services 4815 West Markham Little Rock, AR 72205
Note: All checks are to be made out to ADHHS with a reference as what the check is for and an identifying number – license #, PWS ID#, plan log #, etc. Use separate checks for each fee.			

Stage 2 DDBPR Early Implementation Summary

Lyle Godfrey, P.E., Engineer Supervisor

Beginning with the promulgation of the Stage 1 Disinfection By-Product Rule in 1998, the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services decided to commence monitoring on a schedule beginning about two years ahead of those set in that Rule. This was done for the several reasons.

- To level-out work load for Engineering Section staff and the ADHHS laboratory.
- To gather data necessary to place systems on reduced monitoring where applicable for as many systems as possible and as early as possible.
- To provide data for the public water systems to act upon, if necessary, before the rule became effective.

With the proposal and promulgation of the Stage 2 Rule, Engineering Section staff felt it necessary to continue this implementation strategy. The sample load required for IDSE monitoring in addition to continued Stage 1 compliance monitoring, if not managed properly, would very easily surpass our laboratory capacity. Arkansas has a total of approximately 750 community and non-transient non community water systems for which the Stage 2 IDSE requirements are applicable.

Beginning in the fall of 2003 our technical staff worked with water system personnel to select IDSE sample sites using the recommended protocol in the EPA's 2003 Draft IDSE Guidance Manual. IDSE monitoring was begun in January 2004 and is still underway. To date we have completed IDSE monitoring for 193 Schedule 1, 2 & 3 systems, more than two years prior to the required monitoring completion dates in the Stage 2 rule. By the end of this calendar year, we expect to complete IDSE monitoring for approximately 161 Schedule 4 systems, approximately 3 years ahead of the Rule's schedule.

Investigative monitoring using Stage 1 compliance monitoring requirements is also under way for approximately 70 consecutive systems that do not add a disinfectant. By the end of this calendar year, we will have

2 years monitoring data on these systems. This will allow us to make a determination of whether they are eligible for either a Very Small System (VSS) Waiver or a 40/30 Certification. If any of these systems are not eligible for the VSS Waiver or 40/30 Certification, IDSE monitoring will be conducted during 2007.

Engineering Section staff plan to evaluate the Stage 1 monitoring data and issue VSS Waivers or 40/30 Certifications. Letters will be sent with appropriate supporting data to each eligible water system in the near future and well before the deadline

Geographic Information System (GIS). We also have GIS coverages of other PWS facilities so appropriate maps may be produced for IDSE monitoring plans, IDSE reports and final Stage 2 compliance monitoring plans. Upon completion, the plans will be sent to the water systems for their review and records.

It is our intent to begin monitoring at the final Stage 2 monitoring sites at least two years prior to the required start date. As monitoring at the Stage 2 sites is initiated, we will track and advise the system of their Locational Running Annual Average and well as their overall system Running Annual Average. Hopefully this additional early data will lessen the number of violations when the compliance

Stage 2 DDBPR Timeline					
Schedule	Retail Pop. Served	Submit IDSE Plan; 40/30 Certification; VSS Waiver	Complete IDSE Monitoring	Submit IDSE Report & Stage 2 Monitoring Plan	Comply with Stage 2 Monitoring, LRAA & OEL
1	>100,000	Oct 1, 2006 <i>*Under Development</i>	Sept 30, 2008 <i>*Completed</i>	Jan 1, 2009 <i>*Under Development</i>	Apr 1, 2012
2	50,000 – 99,000	April 1, 2007 <i>*Under Development</i>	Mar 31, 2009 <i>*Completed</i>	July 1, 2009 <i>*Under Development</i>	Oct 1, 2012
3	10,000 – 49,999	Oct 1, 2007 <i>*Under Development</i>	Sept 30, 2009 <i>*Completed</i>	Jan 1, 2010 <i>*Under Development</i>	Oct 1, 2013
4	<10,000	April 1, 2008 <i>*Under Development</i>	Mar 31, 2010 <i>*(Dec 31, 2007)</i>	July 1, 2010	Oct 1, 2013*
* Proposed Arkansas timeframe Schedule for systems in a combined distribution system is based on that of the largest system in the combined distribution system.					

established in the Rule. We expect to issue approximately 200-250 VSS Waivers and approximately 200 – 40/30 Certifications.

We are also nearing completion of approximately 354 IDSE Standard Monitoring Plans. An IDSE Standard Monitoring Plan generally consists of a listing of sample sites, monitoring schedules and a map or schematic of the system identifying the sample locations. It is our intent to produce maps for the IDSE Standard Monitoring Plans using GIS. We have plotted all Stage 1 compliance sites and Stage 2 IDSE sites in our

determinations based solely on LRAA takes effect.

As you can see, our implementation efforts are designed to assure early compliance with the Stage 2 milestones. Additionally, the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services plans to interface with EPA, as necessary, on any reporting activities they may require during the initial years of Rule implementation.

For more information on the Stage 2 DDBPR, contact Lyle Godfrey, Jan Bingaman, or Craig Burger at (501) 661-2623.

STAGE 2 Terms to Know

The Stage 2 of the DBP Rule presents a new set of terms and acronyms for us to learn and deal with. Some of these terms and acronyms are IDSE, VSS Waiver, 40/30 Certification, LRAA, and OEL. Each new term or acronym generally is associated with a compliance deadline or compliance strategy.

IDSE or Individual Distribution System Evaluation is a monitoring strategy designed to select the “ideal” monitoring locations for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids which will ultimately be used for compliance monitoring.

VSS Waiver is a waiver that may be issued to very small systems (those servicing less than 500 people) from the IDSE requirements.

The 40/30 Certification allows a water system that has had no sample exceeding 40 ppb TTHMs and 30 ppb HAA5s during a specified two year period to be exempted from the IDSE requirements.

Under the Stage 2 Rule, the current method of determining compliance using a running annual average for all sites sampled will be replaced with the LRAA or Locational Running Annual Average. In other words, compliance determinations will be made for each site being sampled.

The OEL or Operational Evaluation Level is the sum of the two previous quarters’ disinfection by-product levels plus twice the value of the current quarter, all divided by four. If these levels exceed 0.080 mg/L for TTHMs or 0.060 mg/L for HAA5s, the water system must submit a report to the State examining ways to minimize TTHM and HAA5 levels. The OEL concept is hoped to minimize future MCL violations by alerting a water system of high current disinfection by-product levels.

The Stage 2 DBP rule has established a timetable for compliance for various milestones in the rule. The deadlines are dependent upon the population served by the system or the population served by the largest system in the combined distribution network of systems which are connected to one another. For example, if your system either buys water or sells water to another system or systems, your compliance deadline will be based on the largest system in that combined distribution system network. The table on the previous page outlines the major milestones and compliance dates established by this Rule.

ADHHS’s early implementation efforts for this rule will hopefully allow the water systems in Arkansas to meet the Rule milestones with minimal effort and maximize the time a system has to achieve compliance with the MCLs.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

BELLA VISTA POA: 1250 gpm booster pump station, standby power generator, and 2 MG distribution ground storage tank.

BRYANT: 7500 LF of 16 inch transmission main to serve as a second connection for wholesale water from Central Arkansas Water.

CENTRAL ARKANSAS WATER: addition of a 2750 gpm pump at the Mabelvale Pump station.

CROSS COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM: expansions of the Pulliam Station, Morton, and Fitzgerald Crossing water treatment plants to provide a total treatment capacity of 3.5 MGD.

DANVILLE: rehabilitation and expansion of the Cedar Piney Water Treatment Plant to provide a capacity of 4 MGD.

EAST LOGAN COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD: 13,300 LF of 6 inch main, two booster pump station upgrades, and a 0.21 MG standpipe to increase system capacity in the River Mountain area.

GRANGE – CALAMINE WATER ASSOCIATION: 300,000 LF of 2-8 inch mains, well #5, and a 0.10 MG ground storage tank to serve 180 new customers in the Center area of Sharp County.

HOT SPRINGS: addition of a 2500 gpm pump to the Music Mountain Pump Station.

MILLTOWN WASHBURN WATER USERS ASSOCIATION OF SEBASTIAN COUNTY: 30,000 LF of 8 and 10 inch main, and a 150 gpm booster pump station to allow the purchase of water from the James Fork Water Authority.

NASHVILLE: 0.125 MG elevated storage tank to serve the area northeast of the city.

NEWPORT: addition of the 700 gpm Well #7.

OZARK ACRES WATER ASSOCIATION: 44,000 LF of 2 – 6 inch mains, an additional water well, and a 0.26 MG standpipe to improve water quality, pressures, and flows for its customers in Sharp County.

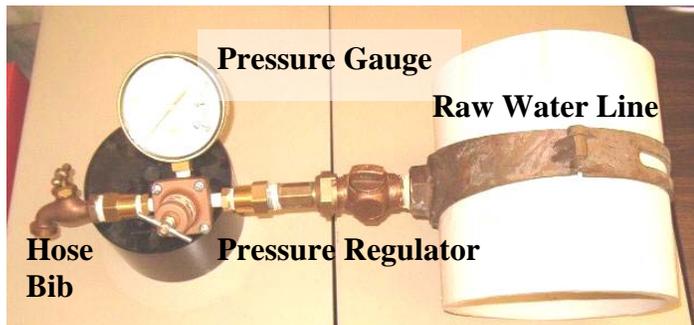
PIGGOT: 4000 LF of 8 inch main and a 0.10 MG elevated distribution storage tank.

Efforts Underway for Raw Water Sampling Under LT2 ESWTR

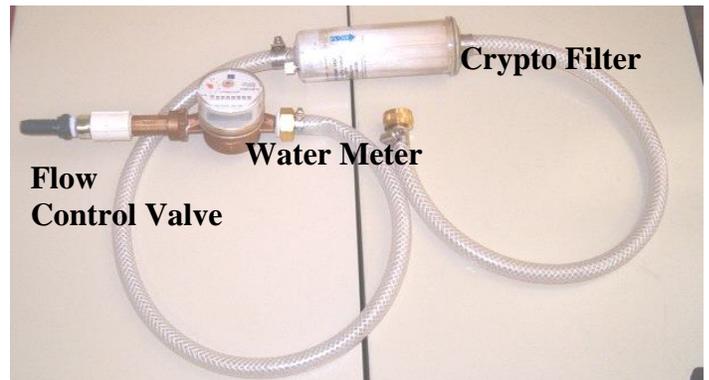
Chris Joyner, Engineer

In the previous issue of the *Drinking Water Update*, a summary of the Long Term Two Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR) outlined the source monitoring requirements associated with the new regulation as well as the importance for systems to maintain protection against microbial pathogens as they

LT2 IESWTR Monitoring Timeline				
Schedule	Population	LT2 Required Sampling Start Date	ADHHS Proposed Sampling Start Date	# Systems / # Sources
1	≥ 100,000	Oct 1, 2006	Completed – Grandfathered	1 / 2
2	50,000 – 99,999	Apr 1, 2007	Oct, 2006	3 / 5
3	10,000 – 49,999	Apr 1, 2008	Oct, 2006	7
			Oct 2007	12
4	<10,000	E.coli – Oct 1, 2008	Jan 2007	117
		Cryptosporidium – Apr, 2010	Jan, 2010	Est 26 / 26



Cryptosporidium monitoring equipment



take steps to reduce the formation of disinfection byproducts. Education and training on the new rule will be the focus of the ADHHS-Engineering Section in the next several months as implementation efforts continue in Arkansas.

The initial source water monitoring requirements of the LT2ESWTR will be an expensive and complex task that will require the combined efforts of the state, public water systems, and the analytical laboratory. The ADHHS intends to assume the majority of the costs associated with the source water monitoring requirements for round one

Projected ADHSS Costs for LT2 Private Lab Analyses	
State Fiscal Year	Proposed Schedule
2007	\$78,960
2008	\$188,083
2009	\$141,507
2010	\$132,487
2011	\$99,625
TOTAL	\$640,566

of the Rule, including lab analysis and shipping costs. However, water systems will be expected to provide the necessary sampling tap and related equipment, as well as to possibly collect, package, and ship the samples to the designated EPA approved private laboratory.

In preparation for the implementation of the rule, the Engineering Section began sending letters in April to those surface source systems which serve a population greater than 10,000. The letters requested that the systems install an approved pressurized raw water sample tap prior to any chemical treatment and to submit a treatment plant schematic verifying the tap's proper location. The letters also requested feedback for preferred training dates to the water system.

Two training sessions were held at the Arkansas Water Works and Water Environment Association's annual conference in Hot Springs in May. The first consisted of an LT2ESWTR summary, and the second was a presentation on the field sampling apparatus that systems will use to collect, pack and ship samples for

Cryptosporidium, *E. coli* and turbidity.

Engineering staff will soon begin site visits at each system to verify raw water tap locations and provide one-on-one training. This training will focus on the field sampling apparatus and training on LT2/Stage2 Data Tracking System. The Engineering Section is currently developing an instructional CD that will also be provided to each system to reinforce the training that will be provided at the treatment plant.

The tentative schedule for raw water sampling of Arkansas water systems under the LT2 ESWTR is shown in the above table.

For more information on the LT2ESWTR or the implementation efforts in Arkansas, contact Chris Joyner, Lyle Godfrey, Monte Sowell, or Zhengyang Liu within the Engineering Section's-Source Protection Program of ADHHS at (501) 661-2623.

For copies of the Federal Register notice of the regulation or technical fact sheets, visit the EPA Safewater website at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/index.html>.

WATER OPERATOR LICENSES ISSUED

December 1, 2005 through February 28, 2006

NAME	TYPE/GRADE	PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM NAME
ALQUIST JERRY C	D - IV & T - II	NO PWS LISTED
ATKINSON CHARLES RANDALL	D - IV	SILOAM SPRINGS WATERWORKS
BARNES JOHNNY STEVE	D - III & T - III	WARREN WATERWORKS
BARNETT DARRELL WAYNE	T - II	COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM
BARTON MICHAEL DON	D - IV	NASHVILLE WATERWORKS
BIGNESS CHRIS A	T - II	HICKORY RIDGE WATERWORKS
BOTTOMS GRADY ELTON	D - III	WALDRON WATERWORKS
BRANNON JOSH TODD	D - IV	BENTONVILLE WATER UTILITIES
BRECKENRIDGE TRACY L	D - I	ASH FLAT WATER COMPANY
BROWN JEFFREY ALLEN	T - II	SEVIER CO WATER ASSOCIATION
BURGESS TODD HARPER	T - IV	COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM
CALHOUN SUE ANN	D - III	DES ARC WATERWORKS
COLLIER BENZENE SR	T - III	HELENA WATER SEWER & LONG LAKE WATER ASSOCIATION
COTTON JEFF R	D - IV & T - IV	WOOSTER WATERWORKS
CUMMINGS DARREN KEITH	D - I	MAUMELLE WATER MANAGEMENT
DAVIS CHRISTOPHER MATTHEW	D - III	DIAMOND CITY WATER
DUNIVAN JESSIE MORRIS	D - VSS	JACKSONPORT WATERWORKS
ELLIS TONY GORDON	D - VSS	ROSTON WATER DEPARTMENT
EVANS KEVIN LOY	D - II & T - II	GLENWOOD WATER DEPARTMENT
GAULDIN DAVID LEE	T - IV	TEXARKANA WATER UTILITIES
GREEN BOBBY ALLEN	D - I	MAGAZINE WATERWORKS
HARDIN CLAUDE WAYNE	T - II	POYEN WATERWORKS
HARRIS BOBBY LEON	D - II	TYRONZA WATERWORKS
HILL STEVE ANTHONY	T - I	PIGGOTT WATERWORKS
HUMPHREY TREVOR	D - III	DELIGHT WATERWORKS
IRWIN JAMES LEE	D - IV	HOT SPRING CO WATER ASSOC
KLOSSNER TIM A	D - IV	BENTONVILLE WATER UTILITIES
LAMBERT DWIGHT M	D - I	PENDLETON-PEA RIDGE WATER ASSN
LANCASTER ROBERT RAYMOND	D - III	FAYETTEVILLE WATERWORKS
LAWRENCE JEREMY R	D - I	COVE WATERWORKS
LORIOLE LENNIS J	D - IV & T - IV	NO PWS LISTED
MARTIN TIMOTHY DEWAYNE	D - II	DUMAS WATERWORKS
MCALISTER JARED CURTIS	D - II	CONCORD WATERWORKS PFB
MELTON CHRIS EDWARD	T - IV	CENTRAL ARKANSAS WATER
MILLER BILL D	T - II	ENTERGY - INDEPENDENCE
MILLER KEVIN DEMOND	D - II	HELENA WATER & SEWER SALEM WATER USERS, SOUTHWEST WATER ASSOCIATION, TULL WATER & HURRICANE LAKE MHP
MITCHELL JERRY	D - IV	BENTON WATERWORKS
MOORE JOHN STEPHEN	T - IV	WALDRON WATERWORKS
NELSON BRANDON DEE	T - III	WATALULA WATER ASSOCIATION
PALMER MICHAEL WAYNE	D - I	ARKANSAS ENVIRONMENTAL ACADEMY
PHILIPP JAMES E	D - IV & T - IV	MARMADUKE WATERWORKS
PHILLIPS BYRON CRAIG	D - I	ALTUS WATERWORKS
PRUITT RALPH L	D - II	KINGSTON SCHOOL
RANDALL BILLY FRANK	T - II	ACORN RURAL WATER ASSN
REID SCOTT ALLEN	D - I	WATSON WATERWORKS
ROBERTSON WILLIAM KENNETH JR	D - I	FORT SMITH WATER UTILITIES
SCHLUETER TED ALAN	D - IV	SILOAM SPRINGS WATERWORKS
SEWELL GARY THOMAS	D - IV	OGDEN WATERWORKS
TERRY LOUIS WAYNE	D - I & T - II	HASKELL WATER SYSTEM
TOLAND DONALD LEONARD	D - II	WEST HELENA WATER WORKS
WARREN JODY PHILLIP	T - II	DORCHEAT WATER ASSOCIATION
WHISEANT GLENN FRANK	D - I & T - I	GENTRY WATERWORKS
WILSON JAMES ALLEN	D - III	VANNDAL-BIRDEYE WATER ASSOC
WILSON RONALD H	T - II	BENTONVILLE WATER UTILITIES
WILTGEN JAMES B	D - IV	

Major Monitoring, MCL, Treatment Technique, & Licensing Violations

Community & Nontransient Noncommunity Public Water Systems – October through December, 2005

145 th STREET WATER	BMCL, 11	NORTH JACKSON WATER	Dmon 11,12
ALL SEASONS MHP	TMCL 10,11,12	NORTH JACKSON WATER	Bmon 12
BENTON COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY #5	Dmon 11,12	ODEN PENCIL BLUFF WATER	TMCL 10,11,12
BRADFORD WATER	Bmon 11	OMAHA WATER	BMCL 10
BRUNO PYATT SCHOOL	BMCL 10	OZAN WATER	BMCL 10
BUENA VISTA OGEMAW WATER	DMCL 10,11,12	PANGBURN	Tmon 10,11,12
BUENA VISTA OGEMAW WATER	Dmon 10	PATTERSON WATER	Dmon 12
CABOT WATER	Bmon 10	PENDLETON PEA RIDGE WATER	OperLic 12
CAMPBELL STATION WATER	Dmon 10,11	PLAINVIEW WATER	DMCL 10,11,12
CASA WATER	Dmon 10	PLAINVIEW WATER	Dmon 10
DAMASCUS WATER	Bmon 12	REMINGTON ARMS CO WATER	Dmon 12
DELIGHT WATER	OperLic 10	RIVIERA WATER	Bmon 12
EAST MONROE WATER	DMCL 10,11,12	SDM WATER	FMCL 10,11,12
EMERSON WATER	OperLic 10	SDM WATER	RMCL 10,11,12
EMERSON WATER	Bmon 10	SHIRLEY WATER	Bmon 10
EVENING SHADE WATER	Tmon 10	SOUTH MOUNTAIN WATER	RMCL 10,11,12
FAIRCREST WATER	DMCL 10,11,12	SUBIACO ACADEMY WATER	Dmon 10
FOUNTAIN HILL WATER	OperLic 12	SUBIACO ACADEMY WATER	DMCL 10,11,12
GILLHAM REGIONAL WATER DIST	DMCL 10,11,12	TUCKERMAN WATER	Dmon 11,12
GOULD WATER	Bmon 10	TUCKERMAN WATER	Bmon 12
GREASY VALLEY WATER	BMCL 10	UNITED WATER	DMCL 10,11,12
GREENWOOD WATER	DMCL 10,11,12	WALDO WATER	BMCL 10
HOLLY GROVE WATER	BMCL 12	WEST WOODRUFF WATER	Dmon 12
INDIAN SWITH RURAL WATER	BMCL 10	WHEATLEY WATER	DMCL 10,11,12
KELSO ROHWER WATER	Bmon 10	WIRE ROAD WATER	BMCL 10
LITTLE PORTION HERMITAGE	BMCL 10	WIRE ROAD WATER	Dmon 10
LOCKESBURG WATER	Bmon 11	YELLVILLE WATER	Bmon 10
MALVERN WATER	Tmon 10,11,12	YORKTOWN WATER	BMCL 10
MARIE WATER	BMCL 11		
MARION COUNTY REG WATER DISTRICT	DMCL 10,11,12		
MCNEIL RURAL WATER	BMCL 11		
MORNING STAR WATER	FMCL		
MOUNTAIN PINE WATER	Bmon 11		
MT MORIAH WATER	Bmon 12		
MT SHERMAN WATER	RMCL 10,11,12		
NE YELL COUNTY WATER	Dmon 10		

KEY: Bmon = Bacti Monitoring; BMCL = Bacti MCL; Dmon = Disinfection By Product Rule Monitoring; DMCL=Disinfection By Product Rule MCL; Tmon = SWTR Major Monitoring; TMCL = SWTR Treatment Technique; SWTR= Failure to Filter; RMCL = Radiochemical MCL; FMCL = Fluoride MCL; SMCL = Synthetic Chemical MCL; OperLic = Operator Licensing; 10=Oct, 11=Nov, 12=Dec.

National Research Council Concludes Fluoride MCL Too Low

A committee convened by the National Research Council to reexamine a 1990's review of the health effects of fluoride has concluded that the current maximum contaminant level of 4 mg/L does not protect against adverse health effects and should be lowered. The committee only considered adverse effects that might result from exposure to fluoride in the 2 to 4 mg/L range; it did not evaluate health risks from a lack of fluoride or fluoride's effectiveness in preventing dental caries.

In 1993, the NRC issued a report which concluded that the fluoride MCL, in effect since 1986, was an appropriate interim standard but that further research was needed to fill data gaps on total exposure to fluoride and its toxicity. Because new research on fluoride is now available and because the Safe Drinking Water Act requires the periodic reassessment of regulations for drinking water contaminants, EPA requested that the NRC again evaluate the primary and secondary standards for fluoride in protecting public health.

The committee of 12 members focused primarily on studies generated since the early 1990's and concluded that exposure at the current MCL of 4 mg/L puts children at risk of developing severe mottling of tooth enamel, called enamel fluorosis, and could increase the risk for bone fractures particularly in people who tend to accumulate fluoride in their bones, such as those with renal disease. Two of the committee members did not agree that enamel fluorosis should be considered an adverse health effect.

The committee did not evaluate whether these same health effects would occur at the recommended optimum fluoride levels of 0.7 to 1.2 mg/L. Therefore, the committee's conclusions on potential adverse effects from fluoride at 2 to 4 mg/L do not apply at the lower levels commonly experienced by most of the public in the U.S. Many public health agencies and experts endorse the adding of fluoride to the water as an effective method of preventing tooth decay where natural fluoride levels are low.

The committee recommended additional research on fluoride exposure and fluoride's effects on the body. The report can be read online or purchased at <http://fermat.nap.edu/catalog/11571.html>

Mandatory Training Course Schedule

MANDATORY COURSE NAME	START DATE	END DATE	OPCERT GRANT ELIGIBLE COURSE	CITY	LOCATION All courses begin at 8 a.m.	SPONSOR
Basic Water Treatment	06/06/06	06/08/06	No	Rogers	Rogers Convention Center	ARWA
Basic Water Math	06/13/06	06/13/06	Yes	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	ARWA
Intermediate Water Treatment	06/13/06	06/15/06	Yes	Russellville	Tri-County Water Office	AEA
Applied Water Math	06/14/06	06/14/06	Yes	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	ARWA
ADHHS Water Compliance	06/15/06	06/15/06	Yes	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	ARWA
Intermediate Water Treatment	06/19/06	06/21/06	No	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	AEA
Basic Water Math	06/27/06	06/27/06	No	Arkadelphia	Water Treatment Plant	AEA
Applied Water Math	06/28/06	06/28/06	No	Arkadelphia	Water Treatment Plant	AEA
ADHHS Water Compliance	06/29/06	06/29/06	No	Arkadelphia	Water Treatment Plant	AEA
Intermediate Water Distribution	07/10/06	07/12/06	Yes	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	AEA
Basic Water Distribution	07/11/06	07/13/06	Yes	Nashville	Carter Day Center	ARWA
Intermediate Water Treatment	07/11/06	07/13/06	No	Rogers	Rogers Convention Center	ARWA
Basic Water Math	07/18/06	07/18/06	No	Nashville	Carter Day Center	ARWA
Applied Water Math	07/19/06	07/19/06	No	Nashville	Carter Day Center	ARWA
ADHHS Water Compliance	07/20/06	07/20/06	No	Nashville	Carter Day Center	ARWA
Advanced Water Distribution	07/24/06	07/26/06	No	Fayetteville	Contact AEA for course location	AEA
ADHHS Water Compliance	07/26/06	07/26/06	No	Little Rock	DOH, 4815 W Markham, L137	ADHHS
Basic Water Distribution	08/01/06	08/03/06	Yes	Forrest City	Wastewater Treatment Plant	AEA
Basic Water Distribution	08/08/06	08/10/06	No	Clarksville	Clarksville Water & Light Ops Bldg	ARWA
Basic Water Math	08/08/06	08/08/06	No	Hot Springs	Wastewater Treatment Plant	AEA
Basic Water Treatment	08/08/06	08/10/06	Yes	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	ARWA
Applied Water Math	08/09/06	08/09/05	No	Hot Springs	Wastewater Treatment Plant	AEA
ADHHS Water Compliance	08/10/06	08/10/06	No	Hot Springs	Wastewater Treatment Plant	AEA
Intermediate Water Treatment	08/15/06	08/17/06	No	Batesville	Fire Training Center	AEA
Advanced Treatment	08/22/06	08/24/06	No	Rogers	Rogers Convention Center	ARWA
Intermediate Water Distribution	08/28/06	08/30/06	No	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	AEA
Basic Water Math	09/05/06	09/05/06	Yes	Mtn. Home	Baxter County Training Facility	ARWA
Basic Water Treatment	09/05/06	09/07/06	No	Little Rock	Ark Dept of Environmental Quality	AEA
Intermediate Water Distribution	09/05/06	09/07/06	No	Clarksville	Clarksville Water & Light Ops Bldg	ARWA
Applied Water Math	09/06/06	09/06/06	Yes	Mtn. Home	Baxter County Training Facility	ARWA
ADHHS Water Compliance	09/07/06	09/07/06	Yes	Mtn. Home	Baxter County Training Facility	ARWA
ADHHS Water Compliance	09/11/06	09/12/06	No	Hot Springs	Hot Springs Conv. Center (2 day Course)	ARWA
Applied Water Math	09/11/06	09/12/06	No	Hot Springs	Hot Springs Convention Center	ARWA
Basic Water Math	09/11/06	09/12/06	No	Hot Springs	Hot Springs Convention Center	ARWA
Basic Water Treatment	09/19/06	09/21/06	Yes	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	AEA
Basic Water Distribution	09/26/06	09/28/06	No	Siloam Springs	Water Treatment Plant	AEA

*OpCERT Grant Eligible Course – Meal and lodging expenses may be reimbursed for operators from Grant Eligible Public Water Systems. Grant eligible systems must be a Community or Non-Transient Non Community Public Water System serving a population of 3300 or less. The course is space limited, with eligible system operators given preference.

All courses require pre-registration. The course sponsor must be contacted to register for each course and to confirm course information that is subject to change or cancellation. Contact information for the sponsors is shown below.

ADH – Arkansas Department of Health – Contact Martin Nutt – (501) 661-2623 – mnutt@healthyarkansas.com

AEA – Arkansas Environmental Academy – Contact Letitia Rusch – (870) 574-4550 – lrusch@sautech.edu

ARWA – Arkansas Rural Water Association – Contact Carol Shaw – (501) 676-2255 – arkwa@sbcglobal.net

Additional courses are shown on the internet at: <http://www.healthylarkansas.com/eng/autoupdates/oper/opcert/opcerting.htm>

REPORT OF THE
Arkansas Drinking Water Advisory and Operator Licensing Committee

A. Martin Nutt, Training and Certification Officer

The Committee held its quarterly meeting January 9, 2006 at the offices of Arkansas Rural Water Association in Lonoke, Arkansas. All members were present. They are Michael "Butch" Bartholomew, Chair, Gary Hum, Vice-Chair, Steve DiCicco, Les Patterson, P.E., Charles Nickle, P.E., Rodney Williams, P.E., and Harold Seifert, P.E., Executive Secretary. Department of Health and Human Services staff members present were Martin Nutt, Training and Certification Officer; and Debbie Beatty, Administrative Assistant. Guests present were Terry Fortenberry, Arkansas Rural Water Association; Gary Oden, Southern Arkansas University, and Suzanne Stair, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

Standing Business

The Committee reviewed and approved minutes from the October 12, 2005 meeting. The Committee had no High School Diploma waivers to review. The Committee reviewed its progress on goals set at their July 2005 meeting for the 2006 fiscal year.

Seifert reported that progress on the online Training Attendance Database was slowly being made, the security hurdles have been met and the focus is now on the actual development of the database and website.

The Committee reviewed a large number of Committee policies. The most significant policy change affects systems with operators whose licenses are inadequate or who do not hold all required licenses. The Committee changed the enforcement concept from phases to priorities allowing the Section to begin escalating enforcement efforts. All other revisions were wordsmithing functions or deleted policies now addressed in the Licensing Regulations.

Seifert addressed the Committee's goal to "Help the Engineering Section find funds for future needs." He gave brief information about Bobby Makin developing a Power Point presentation on the Section's present and future funding concerns and needs. It will be

used at district meetings and other meetings. He noted a questionnaire is already in the mail to all community public water systems asking about our service and interaction with PWS's

Nutt addressed the License Program's 2006 goals. He noted the goal to begin image capturing licensing files was progressing with IT having developed the required image database. Training on the image capturing software and hardware, and the actual process of capturing images (file papers) are the next steps to be taken. Nutt reported that the goal of developing new exam versions has been completed and the new exams were placed into use January 1, 2006. Nutt reported that the goal to develop and implement exam preparation materials on CD-ROM had not been completed, but needs to be implemented soon in order to reduce the cost of copying that is now being charged directly to the Engineering Section by DHHS. On the fourth goal of revising the Compliance Summary, editing is taking place on suggested revisions. Updating of the Summary is being accomplished although Nutt reported it has become a larger task than expected. Also, another revision of the SWTR and DPB chapter may be needed.

Seifert gave a brief report on the OpCert Training Grant outlining the present cost of training/person/day.

Old Business

Seifert shared that the Section had received a one year reprieve on sampling cost not being allowed to come from EPA grants. He noted the EPA grant award received for 2007 was less than what was authorized and that Engineering Section had used up all its federal carry-over monies. Merger with DHHS has left several unanswered money questions and positions unfilled at present.

Nutt passed out the 2006 finalized training calendar. It listed all mandatory courses being offered by the OpCert Grant plus AEA's and ARWA's non-grant mandatory courses. The 2006 exam schedule was also provided.

AWW&WEA's annual conference training credit was discussed. Patterson noted AWW&WEA's next board meeting would be the end of January. He discussed with the Committee that he is recommending that a bar-coded ID badge be issued to track attendees. The concept of scanners being placed at the doors of classes at conference was discussed with ID cards issued in the conference packet. Discussion was also held on methods to make sure that the person registered for the conference is actually the person that attended. Discussion was also held on using this concept to track other training courses. DiCicco and Patterson will look into cost of scanners and cards and will update at the next meeting.

New Business

No New Business was brought forward.

Reports to the Committee

Seifert, in his Executive Secretary and Section's report, stated he had nothing additional to report to the Committee

Nutt, in his Training and Certification Officer's report, reviewed exam performance data with the Committee. The Committee reviewed the pass/fail exam results handout. Hum questioned why D3 required only the intermediate course whereas the T3 required the advanced. He wondered if the Advanced Distribution course was needed before sitting for the D3 exam. Seifert explained to make that change would require regulation revision. The Committee requested that operators be encouraged to take the Advanced Distribution course prior to sitting for the D3 exam.

In the general program part of his report, Nutt reviewed a list of non-renewed operators for the 2005 renewal period as published in the Section's newsletter. He discussed the renewal options available to the operators on the list. Nutt indicated that all fee related items were still being significantly delayed due to merger related receipting issues. He explained that Beatty was now part of a committee to help resolve the

receipting issues and that those issues have reduced her available time to perform other routine duties. He also noted that Celia Ison had left the agency. He noted the program was continuing to function to the best of its ability.

Oden, Interim Director of the Arkansas Environmental Academy, reported that SAU Tech's New Chancellor, Dr. Steve Franks, is in place and is very supportive of AEA's program and staff. The construction of new office/faculty facilities is coming along well. He announced Randy Harper was now the Assistant Director of AEA and is very dedicated and doing well.

Fortenberry reported for the Arkansas Rural Water Association. He gave out calendars for ARWA's 2006 training. He provided ARWA's 2005 Annual Report with a handout to correspond with the information. An additional handout of the OPCERT Program detailing how many water systems took advantage of reimbursement for each month was provided.

Other Business

The Committee concluded its meeting by setting its next meeting at its normally scheduled date of April 12, 2006.

**ARWA Annual Conference
September 10 -13**

Arkansas Rural Water Association will hold its annual conference in Hot Springs on September 10-13, 2006. Attendees will earn 16 hours of direct training. If you need Mandatory Training for an exam, you can attend one of three courses: Basic Water Math, Applied Water Math, or the ADHHS's PWS Compliance Course. You must register for the conference to attend these courses. You must attend all of the sessions for the course, which will take both days to complete, to receive your course completion certificate.

For registration, call 501-676-2255.

WATER OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATIONS

Listed below are the dates and locations of examination sessions as scheduled, as of May 1. All Treatment and Distribution exam grades will be available at the sessions. Acceptable photo identification (Drivers License or equivalent) will be required to sit for an Exam. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices are not allowed in exam sessions. Non-programmable calculators are allowed

DATE	CITY	LOCATION	TIME
6/8/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
6/9/2006	Rogers	Rogers Convention Center	9:00 AM
6/16/2006	Russellville	Tri-County Water	9:00 AM
6/22/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
7/13/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
7/14/2006	Nashville	Carter Day Center	9:00 AM
7/14/2006	Rogers	Rogers Convention Center	9:00 AM
7/27/2006	Fayetteville	Contact AEA for location information	9:00 AM
7/27/2006	Little Rock	ADHHS, 4815 W Markham, L137	9:00 AM
8/4/2006	Forrest City	Wastewater Treatment Plant	9:00 AM
8/11/2006	Clarksville	Clarksville Water & Light Operations Building	9:00 AM
8/11/2006	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	9:00 AM
8/18/2006	Batesville	Fire Training Center	9:00 AM
8/25/2006	Rogers	Rogers Convention Center	9:00 AM
8/31/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
9/8/2006	Clarksville	Clarksville Water & Light Operations Building	9:00 AM
9/8/2006	Little Rock	Ark. Dept. of Environmental Quality	9:00 AM
9/22/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
9/29/2006	Siloam Springs	Water Treatment Plant	9:00 AM
10/6/2006	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	9:00 AM
10/6/2006	Clarksville	Clarksville Water & Light Operations Building	9:00 AM
10/13/2006	Monticello	University of Arkansas-Monticello	9:00 AM
10/26/2006	Hot Springs	Wastewater Treatment Plant	9:00 AM
10/27/2006	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	9:00 AM
11/3/2006	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	9:00 AM
11/9/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
11/17/2006	Malvern	Ouachita Technical College	9:00 AM
11/17/2006	Fort Smith	Contact AEA for location information	9:00 AM
11/30/2006	Paragould	Wastewater Treatment Plant	9:00 AM
12/8/2006	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	9:00 AM
12/8/2006	Camden	AR Environmental Academy	9:00 AM
12/15/2006	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility	9:00 AM

The above exam session information is subject to change. You should confirm this information just prior to the scheduled examination period or see our website:

<http://www.healthylarkansas.com/eng/autoupdates/oper/operexam.htm> .

Please verify that your license application has been filed with this office and that the required exam fee for each exam has been paid. The license exams require significant preparation prior to sitting for the exam. The preparation must include extensive study utilizing the study guide and recommended reference materials. Credit for the mandatory Certification Training Courses must be obtained prior to sitting for an exam.

PREPARATION = SUCCESS

AWW&WEA District Meetings

See also the Division's web site www.healthyarkansas.com/eng/ for updates.

DATE	TIME	CITY	LOCATION	SPONSOR
June 2006				
1	5:00PM	Benton	Senior Center	Central District, AWW&WEA
1	6:30PM	Fort Smith	Golden Corral	Western District, AWW&WEA
8	5:30PM	Russellville	Western Sizzlin	AR Valley District, AWW&WEA
9	5:45PM	Batesville	Western Sizzlin	North Central District, AWW&WEA
8	5:00PM	Earle	Garden Club	Eastern District, AWW&WEA
21	9:00AM	Green Forest	High School	Northwest District, AWW&WEA
15	1:00PM	Paragould	Couch's	Northeast District, AWW&WEA
20	6:30PM	Warren	Molly's	Southeast District, AWW&WEA
22	6:30PM	Foreman	High School	Southwest District, AWW&WEA
July 2006				
6	5:00PM	to be announced	to be announced	Central District, AWW&WEA
6	6:30PM	Fort Smith	Golden Corral	Western District, AWW&WEA
13	5:00PM	Marvell	Court House	Eastern District, AWW&WEA
13	5:30PM	Clarksville	Western Sizzlin	AR Valley District, AWW&WEA
9	5:45PM	Batesville	Western Sizzlin	North Central District, AWW&WEA
19	9:00AM	Pea Ridge	Emergency Services Bldg	Northwest District, AWW&WEA
20	1:00PM	Jonesboro	Western Sizzlin	Northeast District, AWW&WEA
18	6:30PM	Yorktown Water	Charlotte's Café – Star City	Southeast District, AWW&WEA
27	6:30PM	EIDorado	Water Training Ctr	Southwest District, AWW&WEA
August 2006				
3	5:00PM	to be announced	to be announced	Central District, AWW&WEA
3	6:30PM	Fort Smith	Golden Corral	Western District, AWW&WEA
10	5:30PM	Russellville	Western Sizzlin	AR Valley District, AWW&WEA
11	5:45PM	Batesville	Western Sizzlin	North Central District, AWW&WEA
10	5:00PM	East Prairie	Grand Prairie County Club	Eastern District, AWW&WEA
17	1:00PM	Jonesboro	Ed's Catfish	Northeast District, AWW&WEA
24	6:30PM	Prescott	Hope Western Sizzlin	Southwest District, AWW&WEA
15	6:30PM	Crossett	Western Sizzlin	Southeast District, AWW&WEA
16	9:00AM	Harrison	Comfort Inn	Northwest District, AWW&WEA

DIVISION OF HEALTH / ENGINEERING SECTION
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