



NATIONAL WATER
PROGRAM GUIDANCE:
ADDENDUM
FY 2021

March 2020
Publication Number: 850B20001

I. INTRODUCTION

The EPA’s National Water Program continues to make progress towards the goal of monitoring, protecting, and improving America’s water while fostering economic growth. In pursuance of this goal, the Office of Water relies on strong partnerships with state and tribal co-regulators and partners to implement EPA programs effectively. As is obvious, our nation’s water quality programs face numerous and complex challenges. The National Water Program will continue to collaborate across the EPA and with partner programs to address lead contamination in drinking water supplies and will continue to further the President’s ongoing commitment to the Nation’s water infrastructure repair and replacement.

The [FY 2020-2021 National Water Program Guidance](#)¹ (NWPG) was published in June 2019. The NWPG describes how the EPA, states, territories, and tribal governments will work together to ensure safe drinking water and protect and improve the quality of the Nation’s waters. The NWPG also describes strategies for meeting water program goals established in the [FY 2018-2022 U.S. EPA Strategic Plan](#)². The Strategic Plan defines long term objectives of the National Water Program included under Goal 1, Objective 2: Provide for Clean and Safe Water.

The FY 2021 NWPG Addendum focuses on changes to performance metrics designed to align with the EPA’s Lean Management System (ELMS). Through ELMS, the EPA is regularly monitoring progress towards meeting performance metric targets and taking immediate action if expected performance is off track.

More detailed measure information, including definition and methodology is [available online](#)³.

II. FY 2021 NATIONAL PROGRAM GUIDANCE MEASURES:

a. New/Revised Measures for FY 2021

Subject Area	Measure Text	FY 2020 National Targets	FY 2021 National Planning Target	Nature of Revision (New/Revised)
Drinking Water	Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) program reviews completed by the EPA Regions for each primacy agency in the corresponding year	55	56	New. This metric replaces “Drinking water sanitary surveys” included in the FY 2020-2021 NWPG.
Drinking Water	State PWSS rule primacy applications in backlog (older rules)	103	88	New. This metric tracks the number of state drinking water rule primacy packages processed that

¹ FY 2020-2021 National Water Program Guidance is available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-06/documents/fy-20-21-ow-np-guidance.pdf>.

² FY 2018-2022 U.S. EPA Strategic Plan is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-02/documents/fy-2018-2022-epa-strategic-plan.pdf>.

³ More detailed measure information is available at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-10/documents/national_water_program_metric_definitions.pdf.

Subject Area	Measure Text	FY 2020 National Targets	FY 2021 National Planning Target	Nature of Revision (New/Revised)
				had been awaiting approval. Backlog primacy packages are defined as those awaiting Agency approval for all regulations promulgated before January 2006 – Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), Chemical Contaminant Phase II/V, Total Coliform Rule (TCR), Administrative Penalty Authority, New Public Water Systems Definition, Safe Drinking Water Act: Consumer Confidence Reports, OpCert, Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, Stage 1, LCR Minor Revisions, Public Notification, Radionuclides, Filter Backwash Recycling Rule, Long Term 1, and Variances and Exemptions.
Drinking Water	State PWSS rule primacy applications in backlog (5 most recent rules)	68	55	New. This metric tracks the number of state drinking water rule primacy packages processed that had been awaiting approval. Backlog primacy packages are defined as those awaiting Agency approval for the last five recently promulgated regulations. Since January 2006 – Revised TCR, Ground Water Rule, Stage 2, Long Term 2 and short-term revisions to LCR.
Water Quality Standards	States and territories with resources and tools for notifying the public of the presence/risk of harmful algal blooms	30	35	Revised. The metric is refocused on resources and tools instead of methodologies to better capture work being done by the states.
NPDES	Number of existing EPA-issued NPDES permits in backlog	280	187	New. This metric is a summary of two continuing metrics “EPA permit backlog – Existing Non-

Subject Area	Measure Text	FY 2020 National Targets	FY 2021 National Planning Target	Nature of Revision (New/Revised)
				Tribal NPDES” and “EPA permit backlog – Existing Tribal NPDES”. It was added to align with OW’s annual performance metrics included in the annual performance plan and budget submitted to Congress. Note below, the Tribal/non-Tribal break-out will continue to be tracked.
NPDES	EPA Permit Backlog – New NPDES	6	0	New. This metric is a summary of two continuing metrics “EPA Permit Backlog – New Non-Tribal NPDES” and “EPA permit backlog – new Tribal NPDES”. It was added to align with EPA’s FY 2020-2021 Permitting Agency Priority Goal. Note below, the Tribal/non-Tribal break-out will continue to be tracked.

b. Discontinued Measures (from FY 2020)

Subject Area	Measure Text	Rationale
Impaired Waters	Electronic submission of state integrated reports	This metric is captured within ‘Outstanding state submission of 303(d) lists’ since these lists are to be submitted electronically.
Drinking Water	Drinking water sanitary surveys	Replaced with “PWSS program reviews completed by the EPA Regions for each primacy agency in the corresponding year.”
NPDES	Average process time for requests for coverage under NPDES general permits	This metric has consistently shown that the average NOI processing time is very low and further decreases are not necessary or feasible.

c. Continuing Measures (from FY 2020)

Subject Area	Measure Text	FY 2020 National Targets	FY 2021 National Planning Targets
Drinking Water	Community water systems out of compliance with health-based standards	3,280	3,060
Drinking Water	Community water systems out of compliance with health-based standards in Indian country	Indicator	Indicator
Drinking Water	Systems out of compliance due to Lead and Copper Rule violations	268	258
Drinking Water	Strengthen the technical, managerial and financial capacity of drinking water systems	38/month	40/month
Infrastructure	Reviews of State Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	51	51
UIC	EPA permit backlog - New Underground Injection Control (UIC)	12	0
UIC	EPA permit backlog - Existing UIC	15	10
Infrastructure	Number (billions) of non-federal dollars leveraged by EPA water infrastructure finance programs - Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)		
Infrastructure	Reviews of state CWSRF	51	51
NPDES	EPA permit backlog – Existing Non-Tribal NPDES	No target	No target
NPDES	EPA permit backlog – Existing Tribal NPDES	No target	No target
NPDES	EPA permit backlog – New Non-Tribal NPDES	No target	No target
NPDES	EPA permit backlog – New Tribal NPDES	No target	No target
Water Quality	Watersheds with surface waters not meeting standards		
Water Quality	Watersheds with surface waters not meeting standards because of nutrients	195,096	192,096
Impaired Waters	Outstanding state submission of 303(d) lists	20	8
TMDL	Progress in putting priority total maximum daily loads (TMDLs), alternative restoration plans, and protection approaches in place	67%	84%
TMDL	Backlog of EPA action on TMDLs	0	0
TMDL	Backlog of EPA action on priority TMDLs	0	0
Impaired Waters	Backlog of EPA action on 303(d) Lists	0	0
Water Quality	Number of primarily nonpoint source-impaired waterbodies partially or fully restored by nonpoint source (NPS) program actions	925	990
Water Quality	Report on the quality of the Nation's waters - number of samples processed	5,915	10,559
Water Quality Standards	Water Quality Standards actions in backlog	100	75
Water Quality Standards	Number of states completing triennial reviews on time	34	37

III. KEY PROGRAM CONTACTS

Subject Area	Contact Name	Phone	Email
Drinking Water	Eric Bissonette	(202) 564-2147	bissonette.eric@epa.gov
	Travis Cummings	(202) 564-9592	cummings.travis@epa.gov
Underground Injection Control	Eric Bissonette	(202) 564-2147	bissonette.eric@epa.gov
	Travis Cummings	(202) 564-9592	cummings.travis@epa.gov
Infrastructure	Eric Bissonette	(202) 564-2147	bissonette.eric@epa.gov
	Travis Cummings	(202) 564-9592	cummings.travis@epa.gov
	Katherine Stebe	(202) 564-7933	stebe.katherine@epa.gov
	Lynn Stabenfeldt	(202) 564-0602	stabenfeldt.lynn@epa.gov
NPDES	Katherine Stebe	(202) 564-7933	stebe.katherine@epa.gov
	Marvin Tubbs	(202) 564-2996	tubbs.marvin@epa.gov
Water Quality	Tom Wall	(202) 564-4179	wall.tom@epa.gov
TMDLs	Tom Wall	(202) 564-4179	wall.tom@epa.gov
Impaired Waters	Tom Wall	(202) 564-4179	wall.tom@epa.gov
Water Quality Standards	Lenny Bankester	(202) 564-7827	bankester.lenny@epa.gov
Grants Management	Tracey Miller	(202) 564-0783	miller.tracey@epa.gov