

November 13, 2002

Ms. Janet Pawlukiewicz  
Director, Water Protection Task Force  
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4606M)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
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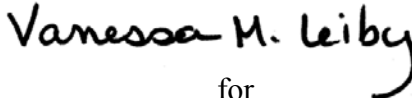
Dear Ms. Pawlukiewicz:

The National Rural Water Association (NRWA) and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) thank you for providing the recommended modifications to bring the NRWA/ASDWA vulnerability assessment guide for systems serving less than 3,300 people in line with EPA's six basic elements that will constitute a satisfactory vulnerability assessment for systems serving between 3,300 and 10,000 people. We have modified the document based on conversations at the ASDWA Annual Conference and many of the changes suggested by your staff and the various EPA Regional offices. The revised assessment guide entitled, *Security Vulnerability Self-Assessment Guide for Small Drinking Water Systems Serving Populations Between 3,300 and 10,000* addresses all of the six EPA elements common to a comprehensive vulnerability assessment.

In addition to this document, we are also transmitting a document entitled, *A Utility Guide for Security Decision Making*. This document should be helpful to water systems as they prepare for, and respond to, water system security emergencies.

These documents, the *Security Vulnerability Self-Assessment Guide for Small Drinking Water Systems Serving Populations Between 3,300 and 10,000* and *A Utility Guide for Security Decision Making*, will be posted on both the NRWA and ASDWA web sites. We would appreciate the Agency also making them available on its web site and including the documents on any list of appropriate tools for water systems.

We thank you for your cooperation and the expeditious manner in which you have responded to our requests for assistance. Should you have any questions please contact Ed Thomas at 202-742-4413 or Vanessa Leiby at 202-293-7655.

Sincerely,   
for

Rob Johnson, NRWA and  
Vanessa Leiby, ASDWA

Enclosure: NRWA/ASDWA *Security Vulnerability Self-Assessment Guide for Small Drinking Water Systems Serving Populations Between 3,300 and 10,000* and *A Utility Guide for Security Decision Making*