

Submitting the Service Line Inventory

SLIs must be uploaded to NMED through their website at:

https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking_water/

It is acceptable to have service lines with lead status unknown on the initial SLI. However, systems must make progress in determining service line materials each year. Systems with only non-lead service lines must still submit their SLIs to NMED.

Public Notices

Within 30 days of submission of the initial SLI, systems must provide public notice to residents with lead, galvanized requiring replacement (GRR), or lead status unknown service lines. Unknown lines are assumed to be lead until proven otherwise. NMED DWB has templates available for public notification on their website. All systems submitting an SLI must make the information available to the public and include at a minimum the location information for every lead and GRR service line. Community water systems must provide instructions on how to access the SLI in their Consumer Confidence Report and systems serving more than 50,000 people must provide the information online.

Replacement

Systems are encouraged to replace lead and GRR service lines once they are discovered. All lead and GRR service lines will eventually have to be replaced.

If you have questions about this factsheet or about the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, please contact us at lcr-manager@state.nm.us or 505-372-8166.

Contact and Resources

NMED DWB Lead and Copper Rule Administrator:

Diana Ixchel Aranda
505-372-8166
lcr.manager@env.nm.gov

NMED DWB Main Website:

https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking_water/

NMED DWB Lead and Copper Program Website:

https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking_water/lead-and-copper-program/

NMED DWB Lead and Copper Rule Revisions Website:

https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking_water/lcrr/

EPA Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and Lead Service Line Inventory Website:

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions>



**New Mexico
Environment
Department**

SCIENCE | INNOVATION | COLLABORATION | COMPLIANCE

Drinking Water Bureau

Lead Service Line Inventories for New Mexico Drinking Water Systems

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)

Under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), all Community and Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC) Public Water Systems in the United States must create a Service Line Inventory (SLI) by October 16, 2024.

This guide gives an overview of what is required and provides additional resources to help systems meet the requirements.

If you have questions about this factsheet or about the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, please contact us at lcr-manager@state.nm.us or 505-372-8166.

Why Lead Service Lines?

Lead is a harmful contaminant that can enter drinking water through lead pipes and plumbing fixtures. One source of lead can be from the service line that runs between water mains and structures, which were often made of lead until banned by New Mexico in 1987. To address this issue, through the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring all Community and Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC) water systems in the United States to create an inventory of the material of the service lines in their community. The New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau (NMED DWB) regulates drinking water in New Mexico and is the agency that is responsible for implementing this rule. Like all water regulations, the goal of this is to promote public health, and specifically to decrease the amount of lead that is ingested through drinking water. The SLIs will be used as a basis to replace lead service lines in communities across New Mexico. All Community and NTNC water systems must submit an SLI, even if they have no lead service lines.



If you have questions about this factsheet or about the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, please contact us at lcr-manager@state.nm.us or 505-372-8166.

Requirement of the SLI

An SLI must contain the required elements:

- street address or other location identifier
- system-owned service line material
- customer-owned service line material
- Source of information used to determine material type

It is encouraged that systems collect and report more information, but these elements are all that is required to satisfy the requirement. Although the customer owned service line may be on private property, it is still the responsibility of a water utility to attempt to identify the material, as it can be a source of lead. A utility is not responsible for identifying any material inside a structure. All service lines connected to the distribution system must be identified, regardless of whether that connection is currently active.

Service Line Materials

An SLI will consist of four material classifications:

- Lead
- Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR)
- Non-Lead
- Lead Status Unknown

A GRR service line means a galvanized line that has ever been downstream of a lead service line or is currently downstream of an unknown service line.

Creating an SLI

The EPA has created an SLI template that is available on the NMED Lead and Copper Program webpage at this link: https://www.env.nm.gov/drinking_water/lead-and-copper-program/. It is recommended systems use this template, but it is not required. This SLI should be thought of as a living document that is continually updated as more service line materials are identified. This webpage also contains other useful information on creating an SLI, such as a Material Identification Guide, Frequently Asked Questions, and a customer survey.

Methods to determine service line material include:

- Water system records review
- Date the service line was installed – lead lines banned starting in 1987
- Scratch, magnetic, or lead testing of exposed lines
- Customer surveys with material identification guide
- Contractor and plumber surveys
- Service line diameters – lead lines typically no larger than 2" in diameter
- Excavation and testing of buried service lines
- CCTV (closed-circuit television) or other internal identification method
- Water testing methods specific for service line material identification
- Predictive modeling

If you have questions about this factsheet or about the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, please contact us at lcr-manager@state.nm.us or 505-372-8166.