



Drinking Water Bureau

Events Impacting Community and Non-Transient Non-Community Water System Regulatory Timeline for Lead Service Line-Related Public Notices

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)

The events listed below may alter your CWS SLI notification and LSL replacement timelines.

Emergency Repairs

If emergency repairs result in the replacement of a LSL the CWS must provide notice and all required risk mitigation measures to the persons served by the affected service line **before the affected service line is returned to service.**

Customer Replacement of Customer-Owned Portion of a LSL

If a customer notifies your CWS that they plan to replace their portion of a LSL, you must make a good faith effort to coordinate removal of the utility-owned portion of the service line. If simultaneous replacement can't be arranged the utility-owned portion must be **replaced within 45 days from the date the customer replaces their portion of the LSL.** All required notice and risk mitigation measures to the persons served by the affected service line must be provided **before the affected service line is returned to service.**

If the CWS fails to meet the 45-day replacement requirement, it must:

- notify NMED of that failure within 30 days, and
- complete the replacement within 180 days from the date the customer replaced their portion of the line.

If a customer notifies a CWS that they already replaced their portion of a LSL within the prior 6 months and left a utility-owned section of LSL in place, the CWS must:

- provide all required notice and risk mitigation measures to the persons served by the affected service line **within 24 hours of becoming aware that the customer's line was replaced,** and
- replace the utility-owned section of LSL **within 45 days.**

Excessive Lead Levels Found During Regular Sampling Procedures

If a CWS's 90th percentile lead level is **above** the trigger level (10 µg/L or 10 ppb) but **below** the lead action level (15 µg/L or 15 ppb) and it serves more than 10,000 persons, the CWS must conduct goal-based LSL removal at a rate approved by NMED.



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If a CWS's 90th percentile lead level exceeds the lead action level (15 µg/L or 15 ppb) and it serves **more than 10,000 persons**, the CWS must conduct full LSL removal at a minimum rate of 3% per year calculated on a 2-year rolling average.

If a CWS's 90th percentile lead level **exceeds the lead action level** (15 µg/L or 15 ppb) and it serves **10,000 persons or fewer**, the CWS must conduct full LSL removal a rate approved by NMED not to exceed 15 years.

Once triggered by lead sampling results, mandatory full LSL replacement can only stop if:

1. the CWS replaces a minimum of 3% of its LSLs per year (starting the day after the end of the sampling period the exceedance occurred in) and its 90th percentile lead level is at or below the lead action level during each of four consecutive six-month sampling periods, or
2. it has no remaining LSLs with status unknown in its inventory and obtains refusals to conduct full LSL replacement or non-responses from every remaining customer in its distribution system served by either a full or partial LSL, or a GRR service line.

Effectively this means that if a CWS has a 90th percentile lead level that exceeds the action level, it will have shift to full LSL replacement for a minimum of two calendar years and must continue with full replacement until it has four, consecutive, 90th percentile lead level tests at or below the lead action level, or it has completed the LSL replacements, whichever comes first.

If at any time after a mandatory full LSL replacement requirement has stopped the 90th percentile lead level again exceeded the action level, the CWS would have to shift back to full LSL replacement, alter its timelines and notices accordingly, and restart the sampling clock.

Impact of System Service Population on LSL Requirements

Some modifications to the standard LSL compliance, replacement schedules and requirements related to maintenance of corrosion control treatment may be available to small CWSs that serve fewer than 10,000 persons (Small Systems), and NTNC systems with NMED approval.

Small Systems and NTNC systems with corrosion control treatment that exceed the lead trigger level (10 µg/L or 10 ppb), but don't exceed the lead and copper actions levels must evaluate specific compliance options (LSL replacement, corrosion control treatment, Point of Use lead reduction devices & replacement of lead bearing plumbing) and make a compliance option recommendation to NMED within six months of the end of the tap sampling period in which the exceedance occurred. NMED will either approve the system's compliance option recommendation or designate an alternative within 6 months of receiving the system's recommendation.

Changes in replacement schedules or other requirements, if approved, will not impact any of the related notice requirements or timelines.