



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

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### VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Date:** December 19, 2024

**Re:** Reminder for Emergency Response - Risk and Resiliency Assessment (RRA) Certification – 3-Month Notice

Dear Public Water Supplier,

You are receiving this letter from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Drinking Water Program (DWP) because you are a Community Public Water System (PWS) serving a population over 100,000. This letter is to remind you that you must certify to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that you have updated your PWS's Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) by **March 31, 2025**, in accordance with America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Section 2013.

AWIA Section 2013, which amended Section 1433 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), requires community drinking water systems serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update Risk and Resilience Assessments (RRAs) and Emergency Response Plans (ERPs). The law specifies the components that the RRAs and ERPs must address and establishes deadlines by which water systems must certify to EPA completion of the RRA and ERP. The law also requires that RRAs and ERPs must be updated and recertified every five years.

Round 1 of AWIA compliance took place in 2020/2021. Round 2 of AWIA compliance starts next year and will take place in 2025/2026. PWS are encouraged to review their RRAs and ERPs in light of emerging and ongoing threats to the water sector such as supply chain issues, cybersecurity concerns, and climate change impacts. A comprehensive list of requirements, resources, FAQs, fact sheets, training recordings, and guidance for updating your RRA and ERP can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/awia-section-2013>.

#### **Action Required**

1. **By March 31, 2025:** Community PWS serving a population over 100,000 must submit their RRA certification.
2. **Six months after submitting their RRA certification, but no later than September 30, 2025:** Community PWS serving a population over 100,000 must submit their ERP certification.

This information is available in alternate format. Please contact MassDEP at 617-292-5500.  
TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370  
MassDEP Website: [www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep)

Printed on Recycled Paper

**Note:** PWS are encouraged to submit their RRA/ERP certifications ahead of these deadlines, if possible.

**Note: Do not submit your updated RRA and ERP documents to EPA or to MassDEP, as those documents may contain sensitive information about your system.**

### **Where to Submit Your RRA and ERP**

PWS can submit their RRA and ERP certification via electronic submission, email, or regular mail. EPA strongly recommends PWS submit their certification via electronic submission, which can be completed at <https://encromerr.epa.gov/RegistrationRequest/OW--AWIA--AWIA%20Certifier?theme=awia>.

### **Where to get EPA's Guidance for Completing and Submitting Your RRA and ERP**

EPA's Guidance for submitting your RRA/ERP certification and downloading the necessary Certification Statement documents can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/how-certify-your-risk-and-resilience-assessment-or-emergency-response-plan>. For EPA assistance regarding RRA and/or ERP certification, please contact EPA's Drinking Water Resilience hotline at [dwresilience@epa.gov](mailto:dwresilience@epa.gov).

MassDEP/DWP cannot help you update your RRA and ERP, as those documents contain sensitive information about your PWS. However, you may reach out to MassDEP/DWP if you need to be connected to resources to help you update these documents. If you need additional information, please contact us at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov), Subject: RRA/ERP Assistance.

Yours truly,



Yvette DePeiza

Program Director  
MassDEP Drinking Water Program

Ecc: DWP chiefs, EPA, Denise Springborg, Kevin Reilly, Andrea Travaglia, Mark Sceery

File: ERP-RRA-ERP Notification-12-19-24