



**American Water Works
Association**

Utility Advisory

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The Authoritative Resource for Safe Drinking WaterSM

Utility Advisory

**TO: AWWA Leadership
All Utilities**

FROM: Jack W. Hoffbuhr

DATE: February 16, 2006

Who:	AWWA and other water agencies
What:	Joint Policy Statement on Mutual Aid & Assistance Networks
When:	February 15, 2006

On February 15, 2006, AWWA, along with seven other water agencies, announced a Joint Policy Statement on Mutual Aid & Assistance Networks. A copy of the full statement, which encourages members of each association to discuss such networks with their peers, can be found on AWWA's Government Affairs page at http://www.awwa.org/Advocacy/Govtaff/Documents/Mutual_Aid_Statement.pdf.

According to the statement: "The water sector is committed to a "Utilities Helping Utilities" concept and is taking steps to encourage utilities and local/state governments to establish intrastate mutual aid and assistance networks. The purpose of these networks is to provide a method whereby water/wastewater utilities that have sustained damages from natural or manmade events could obtain emergency assistance in the form of personnel, equipment, materials, and other associated services as necessary, from other water/wastewater utilities. The objective is to provide rapid, short-term deployment of emergency services to restore the critical operations of the affected water/wastewater utility."

More information on security and disaster recovery can be found on AWWA's Web site at http://www.awwa.org/Advocacy/govtaff/issues/Issue08_Security.cfm.

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