



**American Water Works  
Association**

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The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

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## **Public Affairs Advisory**

**TO: AWWA Leadership  
All Utilities**

**FROM: AWWA Public Affairs**

**DATE: February 20, 2009**

<b>What:</b>	<b>Citizens' groups opposing monochloramine use</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>Ongoing Media Reports/State Legislative Activity</b>

Drinking water utilities planning to introduce monochloramine into their systems should be aware of pockets of opposition from citizens' groups in at least three states. The groups claim the disinfectant can cause rashes, respiratory problems and other negative health impacts.

Most recently, a judge this week ruled against a group's attempts to prohibit monochloramine use in central Pennsylvania (see story here: [www.pennlive.com/news/patriotnews/index.ssf?/base/news/1235018431129900.xml&coll=1](http://www.pennlive.com/news/patriotnews/index.ssf?/base/news/1235018431129900.xml&coll=1))  
Meanwhile, in the Vermont state legislature, a bill has been introduced that would place a two-year moratorium on the use of monochloramine. This is similar to legislation introduced last year in Vermont. The Vermont Department of Public Health provides details on the situation there at: <http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/water/chloramine.aspx> A citizens group in San Francisco has also actively opposed monochloramine: <http://www.chloramine.org>

AWWA offers information to assist in public communication around the introduction of monochloramine disinfection. Materials for internal planning and use can be found by visiting:

[www.awwa.org/Government/Content.cfm?ItemNumber=41233&navItemNumber=3852](http://www.awwa.org/Government/Content.cfm?ItemNumber=41233&navItemNumber=3852)

Utilities that wish to link to AWWA consumer-oriented materials can find them here: [www.drinktap.org/consumerdnn/Home/WaterInformation/Chloramines/tabid/223/Default.aspx](http://www.drinktap.org/consumerdnn/Home/WaterInformation/Chloramines/tabid/223/Default.aspx)

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