



**American Water Works  
Association**

## **Utility Member Benefit**

**Government Affairs Office**  
1300 Eye Street NW  
Suite 701W  
Washington, DC 20005  
T 202.628.8303  
F 202.628.2846

**Headquarters**  
6666 West Quincy Avenue  
Denver, CO 80235-3098  
Washington, DC 20005  
T 303.794.7711  
F 303.795.1989  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

---

## **Regulatory Alert**

**TO: AWWA Leadership  
All Utilities**

**FROM: Jack W. Hoffbuhr**

**DATE: October 10, 2007**

<b>Who:</b>	<b>Drinking Water Utilities</b>
<b>What:</b>	<b>Revisions and Clarifications to the Lead and Copper Rule</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>New Rule Published TODAY</b>

USEPA issued revisions and clarifications to the [Lead and Copper Rule \(LCR\)](#) Sept. 26, making regulatory changes in the areas of sampling, monitoring, customer notification, public education, and changes in the lead service line test-out procedure and lead service line replacement. The rule was published in the Federal Register today and can be found at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-19432.pdf>

In some states, the revisions may be in effect in as soon as six months. In all cases, the revised rule will be in effect within two years. The rule will affect consumer confidence reports, public education information and compliance determinations.

The final rule requires state approval before public water systems may add a new source of water or make long-term changes to treatment processes that may affect optimized corrosion control.

USEPA made changes to the public education requirements of the LCR intended to make it more effective, transparent and easier to implement. Those changes include:

- more flexibility in developing public education language when there is a lead action level exceedance
- a more extensive framework for community education when there is a lead action level exceedance

- new requirement to include specific language on lead in Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs)
- changes to health effects language for lead used in public information materials (e.g., CCRs, public notices, lead education materials)
- a new requirement to provide sample results and other information to persons served by taps used in routine compliance monitoring

**Other changes include:**

- modifications in the compliance determination for systems that take fewer than five samples (the sample result with the highest concentration is considered the 90th percentile value)
- clarification of the sample collection period and clarification of when actions are required following routine monitoring
- a requirement that systems reevaluate lead service lines classified as replaced if the system resumes a lead service line replacement program

USEPA continues to hold open the prospect of a potentially more comprehensive revision of the LCR sometime in the future as part of its six-year review of existing regulations.

AWWA has [many free resources available](#) to assist utilities in understanding the revised rule and communicating with various publics. [Resources designed for consumers](#) are available on AWWA's DrinkTap.org site as well.

An AWWA webcast on the new rule will be presented on Dec. 5. Details will be available by the end of the month on AWWA's website.

[Brochures](#) on Lead in Drinking Water are also available through AWWA's Bookstore.

The new rule may also prompt media inquiries about lead in drinking water. To assist utilities in responding to questions, AWWA provides the attached talking points.

###