

March 3, 2004

**Subject: EPA and DHS Information Bulletin; Department of Homeland Security Visits to Utilities**

Over the past few months members of the Department of Homeland Security's Protective Security Division have arranged to meet with water and wastewater utilities to discuss security issues. These visits will continue as part of the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to meet the requirements of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7. This directive tasks DHS and other federal departments and agencies with identifying critical infrastructures and key resources. The purpose of this identification is to set priorities for the federal efforts to protect these infrastructures from terrorist attacks.

Prior to each planned visit, DHS will coordinate with EPA and the utility. DHS will also coordinate the visits with the state homeland security office or the local Secret Service field office. EPA will coordinate with the appropriate state water officials.

Utility personnel should make sure that the visitors are in fact from DHS prior to allowing them on site. To obtain proper verification to the visit you may want to contact the following organizations: your state homeland security office, regional DHS office, local Secret Service office, or the regional EPA office in your part of the country ([www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) has phone numbers).