



NEWSLETTER

NH WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION



Mr. Currier Goes to Washington

AWWA National Fly-In - Washington, D.C., April 2024

By Sam Currier, President and CEO, NHWWA

One of the coolest things I have done yet as P/CEO of NHWWA is attend the National D.C. Fly-In this past April. Big thanks to all the people that made it possible to get me down there. I was able to fly to Washington, D.C. and stay with hundreds of members of AWWA. All 50 states were represented! Luckily for me, I got to sit next to a couple of seasoned vets of the Fly-In, two gentlemen from Alabama and Mississippi, who really helped me out. They gave me some serious pointers to meet our goal of meeting with all of our state delegates. Nervous was an understatement, as I was the only available person to attend from NH. Fortunately, I was able to meet up and double dip with the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association (NHWPCA) representative Shelagh Connelly. Shelagh was amazing, as she had been doing this for years. We were able to join forces, representing not only NH but also NEWWA and NEWEA, as we met with the NH delegation. **Our goal across the board for NH was to make everyone understand “One Water” and “Water is Worth it”.**

We spent an entire day traveling Capitol Hill as we met with all four NH delegates. Unfortunately, we couldn't meet with all four in-person. This is common as many of them are busy during the small window of time we have to schedule meetings. We did,

however, meet with senior staff and people that represent NH, and get to have a sit-down meeting with Congressman Pappas.

One real take away from this experience is that NH is very fortunate. There are many people in the right spots that truly want what's best for NH. The NH delegates are clearly educated in the needs of NH water works operators and feel it is in their best interest to invest in not only infrastructure but also the people that are there day-in and day-out to provide a community with the best possible drinking water. Water works operators are servants to public health and one thing I learned in D.C. was that NH is leading the way in the how things should be across the nation.

NHWWA is dedicated to this venture and will continue to attend the National D.C. Fly-in annually and do everything we can to represent NH.

With this new amazing tag team duo of water and wastewater, I was fortunate enough to attend the Water Environment Federation (WEF) event as Shelagh's guest and hear Congressman Chris Pappas speak on behalf of what he and his colleagues are doing for both water and wastewater at a national level.

We look forward to continuing this conversation with Congressman



NHWWA P/CEO Sam Currier (l) with Representative Chris Pappas (c) and Shelagh Connelly, NHWPCA (r)

Pappas, members of NHDES, and NH water works leaders at our [2024 Leadership Summit](#) on August 29 in Henniker.

[Click here to read Representative Chris Pappas' remarks at the Plenary Session, National Water Policy Fly-In, April 9, 2024.](#)

See pages 10 and 11 of this newsletter for the **informational handouts** Sam shared with the NH delegation.

News from Sam



As I sit down to add the final touches to my portion of the newsletter, I realize that it has already been one-year since I took on the position as President and CEO of NHWWA. 1-YEAR! I honestly cannot believe it's been this long. The time truly did fly by. I have been asked a lot about how I feel in this position and asked if I still like it. Without hesitation, I answer it the same way every time...Yes. This position is very different from what I have done before. As an operator, I knew what my goal was, I knew what goals I wanted my community to meet. I knew what we needed for the future and tried to plan for that. One of the things you hear from the instructors of our C1A course is simply put, "Everyone has a master sample schedule, if you know it or know where to find it, you can keep any plant in compliance until the treatment runs out." So as someone who was

leaving a position as an operator in a city to run a system in a small town, I was not nervous one bit. I knew where to begin. I did not feel that way on my first day at NHWWA. I knew I wanted to do what I am doing now but I had no idea where to begin.

That feeling didn't last long as I quickly found myself in a place surrounded by colleagues that wanted me to succeed and see NHWWA keep moving forward, building on what my predecessors had started. I would not be as comfortable as I am after year one without the Board of Directors, Committees, our volunteer instructors, our contracted crew, the YP's, NHDES, and of course the person that has been the backbone of NHWWA for some time, Sue. Everyone has contributed a great deal in NHWWA's success, and I find my biggest goal is to match everyone and their abilities to the role that can best help the Association.

Enough with the past, time for the present, and what we can do now for our association.

We are excited for our upcoming annual events:

Fisher Cats Outing and Annual Softball Game is one of the most exciting out-of-the-office days we have. And NHWWA has won all of the softball games... so far. NHWPCA is trying to come after our title! Our Young Professional Committee took this event over some five years ago and it has improved each year.

Construction Day has historically been an amazing event. We are always looking to show off new construction, and this unique day allows us to see the actual project, not just see it in a slideshow. This year, we will be in Rochester and Dover. Both cities have had major upgrades. When we are in Dover, we will see the plant that now occupies the empty pit we saw on Construction Day 2018. Rochester recently completed a new state funded project in an area that was peppered with residential wells full of containments. We also get to see the tallest water tower in NH!

NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show is open for registration and the brochure is out. This is my most exciting day as P/CEO and one of my busiest. Sue and I are constantly trying to figure out what we can do to make this event better. In the coming year, we will be looking to start an Expo Committee to help with the planning and structure needed to put on such a massive event.

The Leadership Summit will have updates from both the Federal and State level, perspectives from multiple generations on a variety of topics and discussion-based learning to discover how we build what's best for our needs, now and in the future.

Workforce Development is always a need and will continue to be a top

(Continued on page 9)

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New Hampshire Water Science Fair, Poetry Contest and Festival held in Keene and Plymouth

Over 160 students from 9 different schools across New Hampshire gathered to learn about keeping water clean at this year's New Hampshire Drinking Water Festival, State Science Fair and Poetry Contest held on May 8 and June 5, 2024.

Bad weather on May 8 led to a last minute scramble resulting in the postponement of the outdoor festival in Plymouth. Fortunately, Keene offered to host the Science Fair in their rec building.

4th Grade Water Science Fair:

Students presented their science projects to panels of judges. The winning topics included "Refraction", "Stuff You've Never Ever Known But Always Wondered About Ice" and "Water Wheel Powered Car."

3rd - 5th Grade Water Poetry Contest:

Students composed poems relating to the theme, "Imagine a Day Without Water (and no bottled water either!)." Competition was fierce as 151 students submitted thought-provoking poems



The 2024 Drinking Water Festival was held at beautiful Fox Pond Park in Plymouth. Thank you to the staff of the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District and the Plymouth Recreation Department for being such great hosts!

The New Hampshire Drinking Water Festival celebrates National Drinking Water Week. In addition to the awards, students who attended the festival on June 5th learned about the complexities of keeping water clean and managing it equitably. Students explored dozens of water topics and current issues including pollution, water conservation, watersheds, dams, macroinvertebrates and indigenous uses of waterways. Water experts from a broad range of non-profit, higher education, municipal and state organizations shared their expertise with students through hands-on activities.

Through generous donations, participating teachers won raffle awards of their choice of classroom sets of science equipment and grand prizes of water well tests and a microscope.

The annual event is sponsored by the New Hampshire Drinking Water Coalition in conjunction with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to encourage

future leaders and scientists to learn about one of the world's most precious resources - water! To learn more about these events and to read the poems, visit <https://nhwaterfestival.org/>.



Keene Mayor Jay Kahn with this year's science fair winners.

that ranged from personal to global water scarcity issues. To read the poems, visit <https://nhwaterfestival.org/poetry-contest/>.



Thank you to our donors! We couldn't do it without you.

ATTENTION Water Operators

NHDES is offering in-person exams on:

October 29

For more information and to apply to take the exams, go to: [Water Works Operator Certification | NH Department of Environmental Services](#)

Applications must be received 30 days prior to the exams.

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NHWWA Calendar

For more information and to register, use links on this page or visit our [TRAINING SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION](#) page. Stay current on trainings and events by signing up for our weekly emails [HERE](#).

When	What	Where	TCHs
August 7, 2024	Construction Day	Rochester & Dover	5
August 20, 2024	Small System Roundtable Training for 1A Operators	Wolfeboro Public Library	2.5
August 22, 2024	Small System Roundtable Training for 1A Operators	Virtual	2.5
August 24, 2024	NH Fisher Cats Outing and Softball Game	Manchester	
August 27, 29 and Sept. 3 & 5, 2024	Grade 1A Operator Course	NHDES Offices	10
August 29, 2024	Leadership Summit	Pats Peak, Henniker	5
September 10, 2024	NHWWA YP Treat & Meet	Merrimack	1
September 18, 20, 25 & 27, 2024	Basic Water Works Math Course	Concord Water Treatment Plant	12
October 8, 10, 15, 17 & 22, 2024	Grade 2 Treatment Exam Prep Course	Manchester Water Treatment Plant	30
October 16, 18, 23 & 25, 2024	Grade 1 Exam Prep Course	NHDES Offices	12
October 24, 2024	NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show	Grappone Center, Concord	5
October 29, 2024	In-person Water Operator Exams	NHDES	
November 14, 2024	Fall Technical Meeting	The Derryfield Restaurant, Manchester	2-3
November TBA	NHWWA YP Treat & Meet	Dover	1
December 12, 2024	Operator Training	NHDES	3-5

NH Drinking Water Expo and Trade Show

Thursday, October 24, 2024, 8 am-4 pm

Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH

[Expo Schedule of Events](#) | [Register](#)



Legislative Update

Several important drinking water related issues were addressed in the 2023/2024 legislative session, once again emphasizing the importance of NHWWA being involved in the legislative process. This year the legislative committee, its chair Marco Philippon, and I were actively involved in over 27 bills to begin the session. Many of these bills, had they become law, would have had a negative impact on our members and the public drinking water community at large. The bills that did or will pass and become law, we believe, improve our ability to operate and manage our utilities more

effectively.

Here is a quick overview of the 2023/2024 legislative session:

As of July 10, 2024, Governor Sununu has only signed one of the original LSR's (Legislative Service Request) [HB 1052](#); Relative to the format of excavating and dredging permit applications.

This Bill was not a real concern for NHWWA. However, we added it to our list, taking into consideration the big picture and wanting to see all legislation that may effect public drinking water, including watersheds.

This bill amends the requirements for submitting excavating and dredging permit applications by changing the format in which these applications must be provided to municipalities. Previously, applicants were required to submit four copies of the form and attachments. The bill changes this requirement, mandating that applicants now submit one paper copy and one digital copy of the form and attachments. The digital copy must be provided in a PDF or another digital format approved by the department. This information and more can be found by clicking the link above.

[SB 492](#) is a bill that wasn't part of the original 27 we followed as it pertained to wastewater. After diving deeper into the text of this bill, it showed an increase in license renewal fees effective July 1, 2024. Fees will increase from \$50 to \$100 for wastewater operator renewals. I can imagine, if it happens on that end of the pipe, it will be the same for Drinking Water Operators.

The fiscal note attached to SB 492 indicates that the bill will not affect state expenditures but is projected to generate an additional \$12,500 in annual revenue from FY 2025 due to the increased certification fees. Local municipalities may incur increased expenditures of up to \$12,000 per year, and counties up to \$500 per year, depending on whether they cover the certification fees for their operators. The Department of Environmental Services cannot determine the exact number of operators who pay the fees themselves. The bill does not introduce new funding, authorize new positions, or involve state funding.

One other bill to note is one that I asked many of you to help me with by writing letters, and that was [HB 1479](#). You may recall seeing this bill that would effectively remove the ability to use any municipal funding for lobbying, essentially removing all aspects of what the legislative committee and I do on behalf of NHWWA..YOU!

I register as a lobbyist to make it better known throughout the state house that I

(Continued on page 9)

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Rye Operator Receives NHWWA YP Certification Award—Congratulations Jacob!

Congratulations to Jacob Madore on winning the 2024 New Hampshire Water Works Association YP Operator Certification Award!

Jacob is currently a Grade 1 water operator with the Rye Water District. Through this award, NHWWA will support Jacob with free trainings, books and guidance as he works toward his Grade 2 license in treatment and distribution.

Jacob, who began his journey in the water industry in 2022, shared his gratitude: "Thank you so much to all that helped make these scholarships possible. I have loved my career as a water operator so far and am excited to see what the future holds as I keep working towards my goals in this industry."

Jacob has received backflow training and is interested in learning more about cross-connections. In a few years he hopes to earn his Grade 3 license as well.

We're proud of Jacob's dedication and look forward to seeing his continued success.



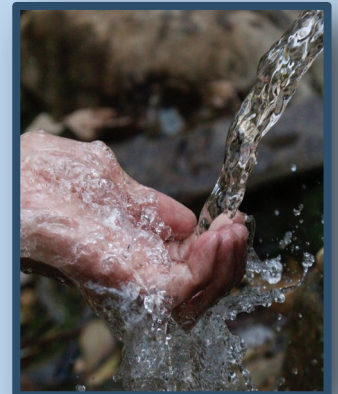
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Thank you to all our supporters! Supporters receive discounts on industry-leading educational classes and programs, access to current and critical technical and regulatory information, and are part of an organization that effectively advocates for and represents New Hampshire's public drinking water sector. If you are not yet a supporter, please consider [joining today](#). Help us to help you succeed!

NHWWA Young Professionals (YP) Committee Happenings



The NHWWA YPs have been hard at work this spring. The Student Outreach Committee has been to over 20 events across New Hampshire talking to high school and college students about career opportunities in the drinking water industry. The Student Outreach Committee is always looking for volunteers to attend events and help recruit the next generation of drinking water professionals!

On March 21st, the Networking Committee held its Spring Treat & Meet at PEU's Locke Lake Treatment Facility. The YPs listened to a stimulating presentation about how the Locke Lake facility sources its water from a combination of bedrock wells and surface water. The Peacham Road station treats the surface water from Webster Stream using membrane technology to remove organics.

On April 30th, the NHWWA collaborated with NEWWA to host the annual Spring Technical Meeting, "Under the Surface: Perspectives in Water Workshop". This event covered topics such as non-apparent disabilities, employee retention, water emergency game preparedness, and fostering diversity in the water sector. Throughout the day, the attendees were encouraged to look at diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in a new light and challenged to make a difference in their own organizations.

On June 27th the NHWWA YPs collaborated with GMWEA, NEWWA, and MWWA for the second annual Cornhole Tournament. Congratulations to our 1st place winners, Kevin Desjardins from DN Tanks and Andrew Greenlaw from the Boston Water & Sewer Commission! This event was made possible by our sponsors **Aqueous Vets, CDM Smith, DN Tanks, EJ Prescott, Granite State Analytical, Kamstrup Water Metering, Kleinfelder, Neptune Technology Group, RH White Construction, Tata & Howard, Ti-SALES, Underwood Engineers and WhiteWater.**

Friendly reminder that the upcoming [Softball Game and Fisher Cats Outing](#) is on August 24th! The third annual Green vs. Blue softball game will feature the Blue Team, NHWWA, defending their title against the Green Team, NHWPCA. Register to play or come support a team! Afterward, join us at the annual Fisher Cats outing for a buffet dinner in the large party suite and watch the NH Fisher Cats take on the Hartford Yard Goats. Bring your family and tell your friends!

Below: 2nd Annual Joint Cornhole Tournament.



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Locke Lake Community Water System: A Groundwater Problem and a Surface Water Solution

By Hannah Marshall, EIT & Ashley Piper, Pennichuck Water

The Locke Lake Community Water System (LLCWS) is located in Barnstead, NH and provides water to over 900 customers. When Pennichuck acquired the system in 2006, there were 6 bedrock wells supplying a small treatment station. The system had high manganese levels above the SDWA secondary standard, undersized distribution pumps that caused customers to be without water during high flow periods, and excessive water loss in the distribution system. Pennichuck began a series of upgrades to the LLCWS including the construction of the Peacham Treatment Facility, installation of a new coprecipitation system for treatment of arsenic, iron, and manganese, and replacement of the majority of the distribution system.

As the demographics in the area changed from primarily seasonal residents to more full-time residents, a higher water demand put increased

strain on the existing groundwater system. This resulted in a loss of nearly 150 feet in the static levels on the wells, causing raw water supply issues. During the summer, the system required water deliveries 3-5 days a week to keep up with household demands and irrigation was not permitted. The wells continued to deteriorate.

After exploring numerous groundwater options with no success, Pennichuck ultimately decided to apply for a surface water withdrawal permit for Webster Stream. This process involved years of collecting water quality and stream flow data to determine if the water could be safely and effectively treated, while also ensuring that existing stream flow conditions and natural habitats would not be negatively impacted.

In March of 2018, various technologies were piloted on site at the Peacham Treatment Facility. After weeks of

piloting, membrane filtration was determined to be best suited for Webster Stream's raw water quality.

In 2020, supported by SRF funding, Pennichuck staff completed the design and construction of three projects associated with the membrane treatment system. The first was a raw water intake in Webster Stream; the second, a building addition to the Peacham Water



The NHWWA YP Committee held a Treat & Meet at the Locke Lake facility in March.

Treatment Facility for housing chemicals; and the third, the installation of the membrane skid and all associated tanks and equipment.

The raw water intake is permitted to operate seasonally from October to June. While the surface water system is in operation, the bedrock wells are allowed to idle. Not only does this provide source redundancy, but it has also enabled significant recharge in groundwater levels. As part of the permit requirements, Pennichuck continues to monitor water quality, well levels, and stream flows. Allowable withdrawals are dependent on natural flow conditions in Webster Stream, which are monitored daily by operators using in-situ technology.

Though there have been operational challenges, bedrock well levels have recovered nearly 125 feet, doubling the capacity of the groundwater system and making 2024 the first year that Pennichuck has allowed outdoor irrigation for customers in the LLCWS.



Janet Levy Remembered

Pioneering Engineer in the Water Industry

It was with sadness that we learned of the passing of Janet Levy, a long time member of and contributor to NHWWA, who died peacefully on Sunday, May 19, at the Granite VNA House in Concord, NH.

Janet was born August 25, 1951, in New York City. She grew up in West Palm Beach, FL, and Stamford, CT. She earned her engineering degree at Syracuse University, and her Masters in 1975 in the nascent discipline of environmental engineering. The fact that Janet chose a career in engineering (historically a “man’s” career until relatively recently), specialized in civil/environmental engineering, and owned and operated her own engineering firm, made her a groundbreaker in the engineering

field. During the 1970’s and 1980’s, oftentimes, Janet was one of the few women, if not the only woman, to attend NHWWA and other industry meetings and symposiums. And more importantly, she paved the way for those women who followed her.

Janet was one of the first engineers in NH to highlight the use of water distribution system computerized modeling to enable municipal water suppliers to effectively manage flow and pressure, and to help plan for future expansion.

Janet lived life to its fullest every day! She was engaged in many aspects of Concord civic life. She served on the Concord Zoning and Planning Boards, was a member and volunteer at the Friends of White Park, and the Woman’s Club of



Concord, to name a few. But Janet’s greatest love and fulfillment was raising, along with her husband Hugh Emerson, her children, and then her involvement with her grandchildren.

Janet was a fierce force for all that is good, and a role model for so many people. Her wry wit, quick laugh, and kindness will be deeply missed.

(NEWS FROM SAM continued from page 2)

priority. I think the best way we can guarantee our associations future is to encourage all of you to be involved as much as you can. We set the bar for associations because of the top tier volunteers we have and to continue that tradition, I encourage you to find a spot in the association to volunteer. We aim for small asks, big rewards and definitely would love to have people in the right spot as we add new committees and opportunities to our

membership.

Are you an operator looking for the next step to become a leader in the Water Works industry? How about [Water Manager’s School](#)? NHWWA wants you to be able to grow and find the tools you need to be the best leader you can in your community. We now collaborate with NHDES and NHWPCA to help put on the Water Managers School. Both myself and Boyd (my predecessor) graduated from this course. Hence, I will continue my

effort to spread the word about this wonderful program.

Lastly, I really want to take the time and thank all of you. I couldn’t have had such a great first year without all that you do.

A special thank you to the Board of Directors and the NHWWA Office Manager Sue.

Sam Currier

President and CEO, NHWWA

(LEGISLATIVE UPDATE Continued from page 5)

am here on behalf of all New Hampshire Water Works Operators. The small fee, and the little orange name badge change the outlook of a person walking in to speak for, or against, a bill. There are 400 members of the house each only holding a 2-year

seat. These seats change faces a lot, so having the lobbyist badge and being able to speak on behalf of water operators goes a long way. We have been able to meet House and Senate members this year and have already made huge impacts. The best part about doing this legislative portion is that I’m speaking on your behalf, and

pushing for the members of the House and Senate to see the people that are out there day-to-day making a difference and serving their community.

Click this link for a full list of bills that NHWWA has followed this 2023/2024 session.

[NHWWA Legislative List](#)



Sustained Funding

New Hampshire Needs You to Restore Federal Funding and Financial Integrity to the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds

We need the the Drinking Water SRF fully funded to 2024 authorized amount of \$3 billion.

Stop diverting hundreds of millions in federal funding from SRF state projects to pay for congressional earmarks. Fund congressional projects in addition to, rather than in lieu of, SRF state projects.

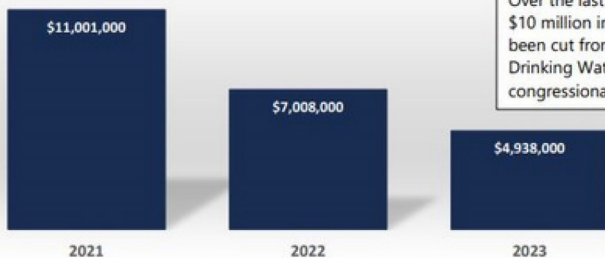
State 2021 Allotment	State 2021 Allotment	2024 Senate Budget 2
\$1,073,505,000	\$36,611,792	\$826,755,668
Federal Funding	Funding Cut 97%	Funding Cut 23%
NH - \$11,001,000	NH - \$375,467	NH - \$8,478,676

NH has seen a constant decline in SRF funding by having carve outs and earmarks made to the little bit of funding we need to help rebuild our ever-aging infrastructure.

Congress cut more than \$75 million in net federal funding for drinking water infrastructure projects in 11 states. New Hampshire is one of them.

New Hampshire: Annual Federal Funding for Drinking Water Projects

Federal Funding for Drinking Water SRF Projects
Cut by \$10 Million



IMPACT OF EARMARKS
Over the last two years, more than \$10 million in federal funding has been cut from the New Hampshire Drinking Water SRF to pay for congressional earmarks.

The allotment formula for the Drinking Water SRF was updated in 2023 based on the result of the 7th Drinking Water Needs Survey.

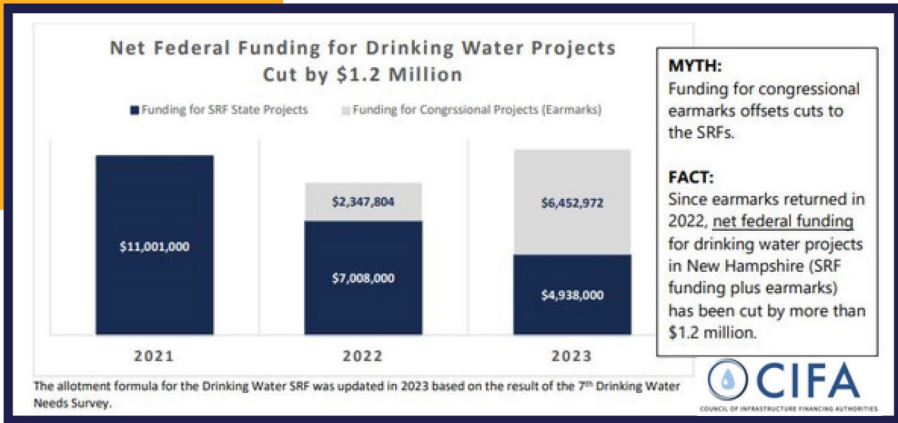


Infrastructure

There is aging infrastructure throughout New Hampshire. The Manchester Treatment Plant, which is the largest in the state, was put online in 1974, and the Distribution System was 100 years earlier! Chlorine was not used at the system until 1928, and Manchester still has original cast iron in it's distribution system. We need to be able to meet the new Lead and Copper Rule requirements, but the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Lead Service Line Replacement Program is not enough.



Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)



PFAS

We feel this information should be science-based and NH has done the science! NH came up with the following numbers that reflect what the actual treatment of PFAS should be regulated at based on parts per trillion:

- PFOA 12ppt
- PFOS 15ppt
- PFHxS 18ppt
- PFNA 11ppt

We are in support of Bill S. 1430 PFAS Liability Protection, which would hold polluters responsible for the associated costs of PFAS, rather than the rate payers.



Workforce

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Sam Currier
President and CEO, NHWWA

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