

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**DRINKING WATER SECTION**

# Safe Drinking Water Primacy Assessment

October 4, 2018  
CT DPH Laboratory  
Rocky Hill, CT

# Agenda

1. September 20, 2018 Meeting Summary
2. Public Act 17-2 Section 677
3. Legislative Concepts
4. Methodology Concepts
5. Upcoming deadlines and next steps



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# September 20, 2018 Meeting Summary

1. Drinking Water Section introduction
2. Public Water System classifications
3. Background and Implementation of Public Act 17-2 Section 676
4. Discussion of Public Act 17-2 Section 677



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# Public Act 17-2 Sec. 677

On or before January 1, 2019, the commissioner, in **consultation** with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and representatives of water companies, shall **develop** a methodology for a safe drinking water primacy assessment on community water systems and transient and non-transient non-community public water systems for the purposes of meeting federal requirements for the department to maintain primacy for the enforcement of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC 300f, et seq., as amended from time to time. The methodology shall **include** calculation of the fee to be assessed and procedures to implement the fee. In developing the methodology, the commissioner may **consider** the frequency and timing of customer billing, delinquency rates for customer payment and the feasibility of assessing a fee based on service connections or customer connections. The commissioner shall provide for a public comment period of thirty days following the development of such methodology. At the conclusion of such public comment period, but not later than February 15, 2019, the commissioner shall **submit** his or her recommendation for legislation necessary to **implement** such methodology to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health.



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# Legislative Concepts

## 1. WHY?

A funding gap exists between current federal/baseline state funds and the total need of the Section. This assessment ensures the DPH can maintain EPA primacy enforcement powers for the State of Connecticut.

## 2. WHO?

Community, Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC), and Transient Non-Community (TNC) systems will be invoiced.



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# Legislative Concepts

## 3. HOW?

The DPH will maintain primacy and staffing levels through this assessment. The methodology defines how the assessment is calculated.

## 4. WHEN?

The DPH is currently invoicing in accordance Section 676 of Public Act 17-2. Upon passage of this language the DPH will begin invoicing in accordance with the legislative requirements.



# Methodology Concepts

1. Communities - hybrid of flat fees and cost per service connection.
2. NTNCs - annual flat fee
3. TNCs
  - Invoice every 3-5 years based on the sanitary survey schedule.
4. Necessary cost increases
  - Percent increase - above previous year's assessment
  - Amount increase - requires commissioner's approval

# Methodology Concepts

5. Annual reporting - DPH number of FTEs supported by the assessment, primacy work and streamlining efforts.
6. Electronic invoicing and payment
7. Non payment
  1. 3 additional documented attempts to collect
  2. 1.5% per month interest
  3. Transfer to DAS for collections after 3 attempts





# Upcoming Deadlines / Next Steps

- DPH must conclude consultation and finalize language during October/November.
- The language will be provided to water industry representatives and interested parties for the December 30-day public comment period.
- Final language will be submitted for legislative consideration by February 15, 2019.



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# Thank You!



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