



**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  
T 303.794.7711  
F 303.795.1989  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

The Authoritative Resource for Safe Water<sup>®</sup>

---

## Legislative/Regulatory Alert

**TO: AWWA Member Utilities**

**FROM: AWWA Public Affairs**

**DATE: January 28, 2011**

<b>Who:</b>	<b>AWWA</b>
<b>What:</b>	<b>Letter to EPA on chromium-6 and testimony before US Senate Committee</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>Letter delivered today; US Senate Hearing on Wednesday, Feb. 2</b>

AWWA today delivered a letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson expressing concern about EPA's recent actions related to chromium-6.

The letter states that "AWWA believes EPA's recent activity related to chromium-6 falls short of the scientific rigor required by the [Safe Drinking Water Act] ... . We respectfully request that future actions on chromium-6 and other contaminants use proven processes and be better informed by sound science." The full letter is posted at:

[www.awwa.org/files/GovtPublicAffairs/AdvisoriesAlerts/012811AWWALettertoJacksononCr6.pdf](http://www.awwa.org/files/GovtPublicAffairs/AdvisoriesAlerts/012811AWWALettertoJacksononCr6.pdf)

In related activity, AWWA will give testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works at 10 a.m. EST Wednesday, Feb. 2, during a hearing entitled "Oversight Hearing on Public Health and Drinking Water Issues." The AWWA testimony, to be delivered by Chuck Murray, general manager of Fairfax Water in Virginia, will advocate that science be the ultimate driver in drinking water regulation. It will also discourage the creation of drinking water standards through legislation. More information on the hearing is available at:

[http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing\\_ID=c8713cf7-802a-23ad-4d51-bd8e2c8a7bd3](http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing_ID=c8713cf7-802a-23ad-4d51-bd8e2c8a7bd3)

### Background

The activity surrounding chromium-6 was spawned by a Dec. 20 report by the advocacy organization Environmental Working Group (EWG). Administrator Jackson two days later issued a statement committing to a series of actions related to chromium-6. See AWWA's Dec. 22 advisory for further explanation and a link to Administrator Jackson's statement:

[www.awwa.org/files/GovtPublicAffairs/AdvisoriesAlerts/122210ChromiumEPA.pdf](http://www.awwa.org/files/GovtPublicAffairs/AdvisoriesAlerts/122210ChromiumEPA.pdf)

EPA subsequently issued guidance to drinking water systems on monitoring for chromium-6. An AWWA advisory from Jan. 11 provides further information related to the guidance.

[www.awwa.org/files/GovtPublicAffairs/AdvisoriesAlerts/011111EPACr-6MonitoringGuidance.pdf](http://www.awwa.org/files/GovtPublicAffairs/AdvisoriesAlerts/011111EPACr-6MonitoringGuidance.pdf)

Questions? Please contact AWWA Government Affairs at 202-628-8303, [aroberson@awwa.org](mailto:aroberson@awwa.org), or AWWA Communications, [gkail@awwa.org](mailto:gkail@awwa.org), at 303-734-3410.