



**American Water Works  
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## **Public Affairs Advisory**

**TO: AWWA Leadership  
All Utilities**

**FROM: AWWA Public Affairs**

**DATE: March 17, 2010**

<b>Who:</b>	<b>Greenpeace</b>
<b>What:</b>	<b>News briefing on infrastructure vulnerabilities and pending chemical security legislation</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>March 18</b>

The environmental advocacy group Greenpeace has announced it will hold a news briefing on infrastructure vulnerabilities and pending chemical security legislation this Thursday, March 18, in Washington, D.C.

In addition to Greenpeace, the Center for American Progress, Advocates for Environmental Human Rights, U.S. Public Interest Research Groups (US PIRG), and United Steelworkers of America are also expected to be present at the press conference.

As mentioned in a recent AWWA [Legislative Alert](#), the Center for American Progress is promoting a report listing 550 water and wastewater plants that changed to disinfectants other than chlorine gas. The thrust of their efforts is to have “inherently safer technology” requirements included in federal chemical security legislation, with an eye toward moving water utilities off of gaseous chlorine. A copy of the report, which AWWA considers incomplete and misleading, is available online at

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/chemical\\_security.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/chemical_security.html).

Read more in Streamlines here:

<http://www.awwa.org/publications/breakingnewsdetail.cfm?itemnumber=54158>

Utilities should be aware that this may result in inquiries from local media outlets. AWWA recently submitted testimony to Congress related to pending chemical security legislation which may be helpful in formulating responses. A summary of key points is available here:

[http://www.drinktap.org/mediadnn/Portals/6/PressReleases/03\\_03\\_10\\_chemical\\_security\\_hearing.pdf](http://www.drinktap.org/mediadnn/Portals/6/PressReleases/03_03_10_chemical_security_hearing.pdf)

An additional resource is available from AWWA, *Selecting Disinfectants in a Security Conscious Environment* at <http://apps.awwa.org/EbusMain/Default.aspx?TabId=55&ProductID=20745>

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